

POL
2/14/69

27 - 9

BIAFRA - NIGERIA

STATE DEPARTMENT SYSTEMATIC REVIEW
☐ Retain classification ☐ Change/classify to _____
☒ Declassify with concurrence of _____
EO 12958, 25X
FPC/HDR by WBY Date: 3/15/96

Withdrawal No. _____

0182

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(11)



Department of State
TELEGRAM

POL EQ GUIN-SP
XR POL 15-1 EQ GUIN
XR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL 250

PAGE 01 COTONO 00228 280122Z

ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00,
CCO 00, JPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, LI 03, H 02, INR 07, AID 28,
OPR 03, P 04, UPW 01, SCG 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, 137 W
077308.

O P 280052Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1909
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMCONSUL DOUALA

CONFIDENTIAL COTONOU 228 SP
POL EQ GUIN-SP
POL 15-1 EQ GUIN
REF STATE 31083, LAGOS 1774.

CONTACTED ICRC REP DYRSSEN 00302 FEBRUARY 28; HE STATED HE HAD
RECEIVED REPORT FROM SANTA ISABEL LATE AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 27.
ACCORDING LETTER RECEIVED, CONDITIONS AT SANTA ISABEL WERE
RELATIVELY RELAXED AS OF 1100Z FEBRUARY 27. RED CROSS REP
SANTA ISABEL SAID CURFEW IN EFFECT NIGHT FEBRUARY 26 AND
AIRPORT GUARDED BY BOTH GUARDIA CIVIL AND GUINEAN "POLICE".
EVENTS IN TOWN AND OCCUPATION AIRPORT IN NO WAY HINDERED ICRC
RELIEF FLIGHTS. ALTHOUGH CITY CALM FEBRUARY 27 AND NO GREAT
SIGN OF TENSENESS, ICRC REP SANTA ISABEL REPORTED THAT MACIA
GOVERNMENT SEEMED TO BE VERY WOBBLY. HE DID NOT ANTICIPATE ANY
DIFFICULTY CARRYING OUT MISSIONS NIGHT FEBRUARY 27. KNOX

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0183

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Authority VMD 950503
By MNARA Date 01/31/05

66



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 494

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01813 281813Z

54
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, AID 28, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02,
INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12,

UPW 01, RSR 01, 136 W

082429

P R 281650Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5223
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USUN NEW YORK 872

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 1813

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: LAGOS 1711

1. AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED LUNS PLAN WITH NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR DE WAAL THIS MORNING. LATTER HAD NEITHER INSTRUCTIONS NOR DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING PLAN. AMBASSADOR SAID USG HOPED THAT OBILAGO PROPOSAL WOULD BE GIVEN PRIORITY OVER OTHER PLANS AS FMG HAD ACCEPTED IT AND REBELS HAD NOT YET TAKEN DECISION. IF OTHER PLANS FLOATED NOW, REBELS MIGHT USE THEM AS PRETEXT TO AVOID DECISION ON OBILAGO. AMBASSADOR ALSO SAID THAT EMBASSY STAFF WAS PUZZLED THAT LUNS HAD CHOSEN DEGEMA-OGUTA ROUTE SINCE BASIC NIGERIAN WATERWAYS SURVEY PREPARED BY NETHERLANDS CONSULTING FIRM DESCRIBED THIS AS VERY SHALLOW WATERWAY.

2. THIS AFTERNOON AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED RELIEF SITUATION WITH SWEDISH AMBASSADOR SWARTZ WHO

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0184

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Authority VND 959/503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 01813 281813Z

DEPARTING TOMORROW FOR CONSULTATION IN STOCKHOLM. AMBASSADOR MADE SAME POINTS RE OBILAGO PROPOSAL AND LUNS PLAN AS HE HAD TO DE WAAL. SWARTZ SAID HE FULLY AGREED THAT OBILAGO SHOULD BE GIVEN PRIORITY. HIS GOVERNMENT WAS TAKING POSITION WITH NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT THAT LUNS PLAN SHOULD BE STUDIED BUT SHOULD NOT BE MADE PUBLIC NOW.

3. RE OBILAGO PROPOSAL AND QUESTION OF DAY FLIGHTS GENERALLY, AMBASSADOR SAID THAT IT NOW APPEARED THAT PROTESTANT CHURCH GROUPS WERE STRONGEST SUPPORTERS OF NIGHT FLIGHT STATUS QUO AND ASKED WHETHER SWEDISH GOVERNMENT COULD DO ANYTHING TO PERSUADE NORDIC CHURCH GROUPS TO BE MORE RECEPTIVE TO DAY FLIGHTS. SWARTZ RESPONDED THAT NORWEGIAN AND DANISH CHURCH GROUPS MORE AGGRESSIVE THAN SWEDISH AND SPOKE WITH SOME ASPERITY OF MOLLERUP WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS BIASED AND OBSTINATE. SWARTZ CONTINUED THAT HE BELIEVED IT ESSENTIAL TO BRING ICRC, CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT CHURCH GROUPS INTO CLOSER COOPERATION. HE PERSONALLY HOPED THAT NEW USG RELIEF COORDINATOR WOULD GIVE PRIMARY ATTENTION TO THIS PROBLEM. HE WAS SURE THAT SWEDISH GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE FERGUSON FULL COOPERRATION IN THIS AND OTHER MATTERS.

4. SWARTZ RELATED THAT SWEDISH PUBLIC OUTCRY OVER PRESS REPORTS OF FMG BOMBINGS IN REBEL TERRITORY HAD LED HIS GOVERNMENT TO PROPOSE THAT HE MAKE STRONG PROTEST TO FMG AND THREATEN TO WITHDRAW SWEDISH MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL INSPECTION TEAM IF FMG DID NOT CEASE BOMBING ATTACKS. SWARTZ HAD ARGUED THAT IT WAS NOT INTENT OF FMG TO BOMB CIVILIANS, THAT HOWEVER DEPLORABLE INACCURACY OF FMG BOMBINGS THERE WERE MANY LEGITIMATE MILITARY TARGETS IN REBEL TERRITORY AND THAT ACTION PROPOSED WOULD DESTROY SUCH INFLUENCE AS SWEDISH GOVERNMENT HAD WITH FMG WITHOUT ENDING BOMBING. STOCKHOLM HAD ACCEPTED HIS POSITION.

GP-3 MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

27

0185

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Authority VND 954503
By MNARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 684

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01814 281959Z

53
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, AID 28, SR 01,

ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, E 15, RSR 01, ACDA 16, /181 W
----- 083084

R 281703Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5224
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1814

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. LINDT CALLED ON AMBASSADOR TODAY. HE HAD GONE TO COTONOU ON THE 25TH TO LOOK INTO THE RUMOR THAT OJUKWU HAD CLOSED OFF ICRC FLIGHTS FROM COTONOU TO ULI. HE FOUND THIS RUMOR FALSE AND WHILE ALL RELIEF FLIGHTS HAD BEEN CLOSED OFF ON THE 24TH, THIS, HE SAID, WAS BECAUSE ONE OF THE RELIEF PLANE PILOTS HAD LOST HIS CODE AND FLIGHTS WERE CANCELLED UNTIL A NEW CODE WAS ISSUED. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED QUICKLY AND FLIGHTS WERE RESUMED ON THE 25TH OF FEBRUARY.

2. LINDT ALSO LOOKED INTO THE REPORT THAT THE FMG HAD CLOSED THE BORDERS TO DAHOMEAN TRAFFIC. HE REPORTED THIS TO BE TRUE AND WAS CONVINCED THAT THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS WAS NOT FULLY AWARE OF THE FACTS AND WHATEVER THE REASONS FOR CLOSING THE BORDERS OR RESTRICTING THE FLOW OF DAHOMEAN TRAFFIC THAT THE LOCAL FMG REPRESENTATIVE IN COTONOU WAS USING THIS AS PRESSURE ON THE GOV

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01814

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Authority VND 959/503
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 01814 281959Z

MUCH AS THE LOCAL FMG REP EARLIER THAD DONE WITH GEG. HE PLANS SEE ENAHORO THIS AFTERNOON IN EFFORT TO CLARIFY MATTER. MEANWHILE, WE HAVE TELEPHONIC REPORT FROM CONSULATE IBADAN TO EFFECT THERE IS REAL SMUGGLING PROBLEM WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR BORDER CLOSING. WE EXPECT A FULL REPORT FROM IBADAN SOON ON THIS ISSUE.

3. LINDT HAS SEEN RODHAIN, PRESIDENT CARITAS, AND FOUND HIM VERY RECEPTIVE TO IDEA JOINT APPROACH TO OJUKWU ON QUESTION DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. RODHAIN, HOWEVER, MUST FIRST PERSUADE OTHER MEMBERS HIS GROUP PLUS THE JOINT CHURCH GROUP TO THIS POINT OF VIEW. RODHAIN HAS RETURNED TO ROME AND LINDT HAS ARRANGED MEET WITH HIM SOMETIME AFTER 6TH MARCH IN GENEVA TO DISCUSS ISSUE. LOND T SAW NO REPEAT NO SENSE IN STOCKPILING GOODS AT OBILAGO NOW, STATING THAT TO DO SO IS APT TO PROVOKE OJUKWU. AMBASSADOR COMMENTED THIS WASHINGTON'S VIEW ALSO. LINDT DISTURBED BY VARIOUS OTHER PROPOSALS NOW SURFACING OR ABOUT TO SURFACE, WHICH WILL CUT ACROSS THE CONCEPT OF DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS AND ARE APT CONFUSE ISSUE AND AFFORD OJUKWU REASONS FOR NOT GOING AHEAD WITH THE DAYLIGHT FLIGHT PLAN. HE FEELS RIGHT TACTIC AT MOMENT IS TO CONCENTRATE ON DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS AND THAT ONCE AGREEMENT IS ACHIEVED ON THESE CHANCES MOVING TO LAND CORRIDOR WILL BE MUCH ENHANCED.

4. LINDT PARTICULARLY DISTURBED BY REPORT THAT CANADIAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH GROUP (DR. JOHNSON) HAD OFFERED BUILD SECOND AIRSTRIP. THIS, IN LINDT'S VIEW, WOULD TAKE SOME THREE MONTHS. SINCE OPERATION WOULD BE STARTING FROM SCRATCH, WOULD REQUIRE, AS HE HAS ALREADY HEARD FROM JAGGI, ENORMOUS QUANTITIES OF EQUIPMENT. HE HAS REAL DOUBTS THAT THIS SCHEME FEASIBLE, BUT FEARS IT WILL GIVE OJUKWU EXCUSE SABOTAGE EARLY USE DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. HE HAS LEARNED OF THE "LUNS PLAN", FOUND MANY CONTRADICTIONS IN IT AND CONSIDERS IT IMPRACTICAL.

CONFIDENTIAL
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0187

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By MN NARA Date 10/3/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LAGOS 01814 281959Z

5. LINDT PLANS TO FLY INTO "BIAFRA" TONIGHT AND
PLANS DISCUSS DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS WITH OJUKWU. HE
WILL GO FROM THERE TO SANTA ISABEL AND THEN
PROCEED TO GENEVA WHERE HE EXPECTS TO ARRIVE BY
6 MARCH.
GP-3 MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL
31

0188

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By: MVA Date: 10/3/05

66



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

18/15
27-28-69

UNCLASSIFIED 827

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01815 282128Z

85
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, ACDA 16, AID 28, JPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01,
L 03, H 02, P 04, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, DODE 00, SCSE 00, SCA 01,

UPW 01, ORM 03, SR 01, E 15, MC 01, RSR 01, /166 W

083612

R 281655Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5225
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA UNN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU 982
AMEMBASSY LONDON 3356
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA UNN
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY UNN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE UNN
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION NY
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS LAGOS 1815

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN PRESS ROUNDUP - FEB 27 AND 28

IN RELIEF. LAGOS DAILIES FEBRUARY 27 HEADLINED
VISIT CARITAS HEAD, MONSIGNOR RODHAIN, IN SELF-
CONGRATULATORY VEIN. POST HEAD WAS
"ITS SUPERB RESETTLEMENT PLAN," RODHAIN RECEPTION
BY GOWON RECEIVED WIDE PRESS, RADIO AND TV PLAY.

FMG MEDIA GAVE IMPRESSION VISIT WENT SMOOTHLY,
BUT VIRTUALLY NO REPORTING ON SUBSTANCE OF CONVERSATIONS.

OTHER THAN REPETITION FM ALLEGED
OBJECTIONS TO CARITAS FLIGHTS, I.E., (A) 1
FLIGHT "DEFIED" NIGERIAN AIRSPACE; (B) CARITAS

ANNOUNCEMENT FLIGHTS TO TAKE PLACE WITH OR WITHOUT

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0189

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By MN NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 01815 282128Z

FMG AGREEMENT: (CC) PROVISION SPACE FOR ARMS ON NIGHT FLIGHTS.

2. TRUCE. LAGOS PAPERS 28TH CLAIMED FMG TROOPS
OBSERVED TWO-DAY TRUCE FOR MOSLEM HOLIDAY, WITH
TIMES ADDITION "LAGOS HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY REPORTS
OF INCIDENTS YESTERDAY" ACCORDING TO ARMY
SPOKESMAN. (RDIO BIAFRA HAS CLAIMED FMG DID
BREAK THEIR SELF-PROCLAIMED TRUCE. THESE
REPORTS CARRIED ON BBC FEBRUARY 27 AND WII).
MATHEWS

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0190

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By MN NARA Date 10/5/02

17



FCI 27-9 BIAFLA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 835

PAGE 01 THE HA 00801 01 OF 02 010901Z

18
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, SR 01, IO 13, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, UPW 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00,
JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,
USIA 12, AID 28, RSR 01, /150 W

086980

R 281600Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3575
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA UNN
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN UNN
AMEMBASSY LONDON UNN
AMEMBASSY PARIS UNN
ZEN/USUN NEW YORK UNN
STAT E GRNC

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 THE HAGUE 801

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: SECOND MEETING ON "LUNS PLAN"

REF: HAGUE 693, 732: STATE 028892: LAGOS 1711

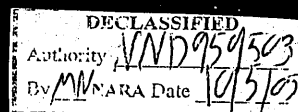
1. SUMMARY: SECOND MEETING ON "LUNS PLAN" WAS 2-HOUR
SESSION HOSTED BY MFA SEC GEN SCHIFF AND ATTENDED BY
ACTING ICRC PRESIDENT FREYMOND, AMBASSADORS AND/OR
COUNSELORS OTHER EMBASSIES INVOLVED (EXCEPT FOR LUX. AMBASSADOR
WHO IS AWAY), OUR SECOND SECRETARY OBSERVER, AND "EXPERTS" FROM
BELGIUM, CANADA (WHICH STILL TECHNICALLY AN OBSERVER
AND NORWAY. MEETING PRODUCED CONSENSUS ON FOLLOWING

CONFIDENTIAL

6

The Hague, 1/28/69

0191





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 THE HA 00801 01 OF 02 010901Z

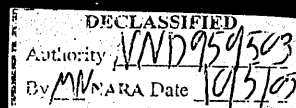
POINTS: (A) NETH INITIATIVE WELCOME; (B) IMPORTANCE OF ICRC UMBRELLA; (C) IMPORTANCE OF DOING NOTHING THAT WOULD PREJUDICE OTHER PROPOSALS NOW IN MILL (E.G., OBILAGO AIR-LAND CORRIDOR); (D) CONTINUING UNCERTAINTY RE TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY OF NETH PROPOSAL; (E) ADVISABILITY OF COMPARING TECHNICAL/POLITICAL ASPECTS OF ALL EXISTING PROPOSALS AT NEXT MEETING. ONLY DANISH AND U.S. WERE SILENT AT MEETING (WE INFORMED DUTCH AND SEVERAL OTHERS OUTSIDE MEETING OF VIEWS CONTAINED STATE 28892). NEXT MEETING IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 7, IN GENEVA, IN ORDER TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PRESENCE THERE OF LINDT. FREYMOND ALSO ASKED ALL PRESENT O URGE GOVERNMENTS PROVIDE SOONEST PUBLISHABLE FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS TOWARD NEW 6-MONTH ICRC PLAN WHICH GOES INTO EFFECT MARCH 1. END SUMMARY

2. MFA SECGEN SCHIFF OPENED MEETING WITH REVIEW OF PAST HISTORY, NOTING PRESSURES IN DUTCH PARLIAMENT (WHERE LUNS ON 27TH SAID THAT CONSULTATIONS ON A NEW PLAN PROGRESSING), AND JUSTIFYING EXPLORATION WATER ROUTE ON GROUNDS PROSPECTS AIR AND LAND ROUTE PROPOSALS SEEM "NOT VERY BRIGHT". HE ASKED FOR OPINIONS ON NEED FOR RED CROSS UMBRELLA. (SHOULD IT BE ICRC, AFRICAN, OR SAME COMBINATION NATIONAL GROUPS?) HE UNDERLINED CONTINUED NEED FOR SECRECY.

3. ICRC VIEWS: FREYMOND WELCOMED NETH INITIATIVE, BUT NOTED COMPLEXITY AND SENSITIVITY OF EFFORTS SINCE LAST SUMMER TO EXPAND CAPACITY OF RELIEF EFFORT AND STRESSED THAT NTOHING SHOULD BE DONE WHICH MIGHT PREJUDICE STILL FRAGILE POSITION OF EXISTING AIR BRIDGE. (HE NOTED ICRC MUCH MORE INVOLVED IN SAN TOME OPERATION THAN FMG REALIZES.) ON VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES FOR EXPANSION HE REPORTED: (A) OBILAGO PROPOSAL FAILED OF APPROVAL LAST FALL BUT ICRC WOULD WELCOME INFO ON PRESENT POSSIBILITIES; (B) WATER ROUTES TO OGUTA DISCUSSED WITHIN ICRC LAST WEEK AND IT CONCLUDED CHANCES OF BIAFRAN-FMG AGREEMENT SLIM; (C) ICRC CONTINUING STRIVE FOR DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS AND EITHER WATER OR LAND CORRDIOR; (D) ON WATER ROUTES, ICRC HAS STUDIED (IN GENEVA) NETH PROPOSAL (DEGEMA-OGUTA) AND SHORTER (100-MILE) DEEPER

CONFIDENTIAL

0192





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 THE HA 00801 01 OF 02 010901Z

ROUTE FROM CALABAR VIA CROSS RIVER TO QUIETER PART OF FRONT. (COMMENT: THERE APPEARS BE SOME DOUBT CROSS RIVER ENTERS TERRITORY NOW HELD BY BIAFRANS.) HE CALLED FOR COORDINATION ALL EFFORTS NOW UNDER WAY, AND THOUGHT ICRC SHOULD PROVIDE UMBRELLA. ON INVOLVEMENT OF OAU, HE SHOWED SOME RELUCTANCE GET BYOND "BROAD COOPERATION" WITH FULL MEMBER SHIP, SEEMING PREFER CONCENTRATION ON MORE COOPERATIVE MEMBERS.

A. REACTIONS BY GOVERNMENT REPS: (A) SWEDISH CHARGE LED OFF ON INSTRUCTIONS WITH STATEMENT "LOWENSTEIN PLAN" (OBILAGO) SEEMS MOST PROMISING AT MOMENT FOR VARIOUS REASONS, INCLUDING LOCATION, FMG ACCEPTANCE, AND ACTIVE INTEREST IN RELIEF PROBLEM BY USG. (COMMENT: GOS SEEMS ASSUME USG PREFERENCES OBILAGO PLAN.) GOS AGREES WATER APPROACH WORTH STUDY BUT PREFERENCES AVOID RELEASE OF OTHER PROPOSALS NOW, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT BELIEVES FMG UNLIKELY APPROVE WATER ROUTE. CHARGE ADDED THAT BIAFRAN MINISTER WHO IN STOCKHOLM LAST WEEK SPOKE FAVORABLE OF WATER ROUTE.

(B) CANADIAN CHARGE SAID HE UNDERSTANDS BIAFRAN FORCES MOVING TOWARD OBILAGO AND MAY SUCCEED IN RETAKING IT (FREYMOND AGREED THIS PROBABLE REASON FOR FMG

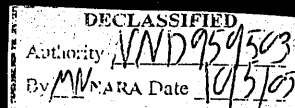
APPROVAL.) CANADIAN EXPERT WEIGHED IN WITH LENGTHY ARGUMENT FOR CONCENTRATING ON INTENSIFIED PRESSURES ON BIAFRANS TO ACCEPT DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. BOTH HE AND GERMAN AMBASSADOR HAD REPORTS BIAFRANS NOW BUILDING NEW AIRSTRIP,

POSSIBLY WITH HELP CANADIAN FIRM ACCORDING TO GOC. (C) GERMAN AMBASSADOR SAID FRG WILLING HELP WITH LUNS PLAN AS LONG AS ICRC AND OTHER EFFORTS NOT PREJUDICED. HE REPORTED FMG HAD RECENTLY TOLD GERMANS IN LAGOS THAT WATER ROUTE UNACCEPTABLE SINCE ADEQUATE CONTROLS NOT

FEASIBLE. FRG LEANS TOWARD CONCENTRATION ON EXPANDING AIRLIFT TO ULI AND OPENING OF SECOND AIRFIELD. FRG UNDERSTANDS OJUKWU NOW AGREES TO DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS (SOME OTHERS THOUGHT NOT). (D) BELGIANS SAID THEY WILLING SUPPORT BOTH AIR AND WATER ROUTE PROPOSALS, BUT ALWAYS WITH PROVISIO ICRC APPROVES. (E) ITALIAN AMBASSADOR SAID GOI SUPPORTS LUNS PLAN IN PRINCIPLE ON CONDITIONS ICRC SERVES AS UMBRELLA AND FMG APPROVES, BUT RESERVES POSITION ON FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION: PENDING FURTHER DETAILS ON COST. HE AGREED PRESENTATION TOO MANY ALTERNATIVE

CONFIDENTIAL

0193





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 THE HA 00801 01 OF 02 010901Z

PLANS AT ONCE WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE, AND THOUGH
IMPORTANCE OF WATER ROUTE A FUNCTION OF ESTIMATES ON
LENGTH OF WAR (FREYMOND URGED WATER ROUTE USEFUL EVEN
AFTER WAR ENDS). (F) NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR SAID GON
HAD NO DEFINITE VIEW YET BEYOND WELCOMING NETH
INITIATIVE AND FEELING NEED FOR ICRC UMBRELLA. HE POINTED
TO FACT SCANDINAVIANS WORKING CLOSELY TOGETHER ON RELIEF
QUESTION, THUS ONE EXPERT PRESENT SERVING ALL THREE.

CONFIDENTIAL

0194

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18



Department of State TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 839

PAGE 01 THE HA 00801 02 OF 02 010909Z

18

ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, SR 01, IO 13, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, AID 28, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

USIA 12, UPW 01, RSR 01, /150 W

087020

R 281600Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3576
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA UNN
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN UNN
AMEMBASSY LONDON UNN
AMEMBASSY PARIS UNN

USUN NEW YORK UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 THE HAGUE 801

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: SECOND MEETING ON "LUNS PLAN"

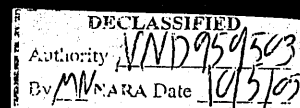
REF: HAGUE 693, 732: STATE 028892: LAGOS 1711

5. SCHIFF AGREED NEED FOR SECRECY ON WATER ROUTES SO AS NOT TO
DAMAGE CHANCES OF OBILAGO ROUTE, BUT ARGUED TECHNICAL
FEASIBILITY STUDIES ON BOTH NETH AND ICRC'S SUGGESTED
WATER ROUTES SHOULD PROCEED. NO ONE OBJECTED.
HE SUGGESTED THERE MIGHT BE POSSIBILITY OF COMING
SEVERAL APPROACHES IN ONE PLAN FOR PRESENTATION THROUGH
NAU, BUT THOUGHT THIS WOULD TAKE TOO MUCH TIME. IT

CONFIDENTIAL

6

0195





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 THE HA 00801 02 OF 02 010909Z

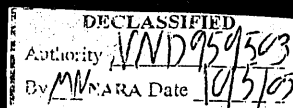
WAS THEN AGREED BY ALL THAT DUTCH WOULD ATTEMPT PREPARE PAPER OUTLINING VARIOUS PROPOSALS (OBILAGO, DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS TO ULII, NEW AIRSTRIIP, DEGEMA-OGUTA ROUTE, AND CROSS RIVER ROUTE) FOR DISCUSSION AT NEXT MEETING. EACH REP WOULD ASK HIS GOVERNMENT FOR FURTHER REACTIONS AS TO TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL FEASIBILITY OF TWO WATER ROUTES, AS WELL AS ASSESSMENTS RELATIVE MERITS OF OTHER EXISTING PROPOSALS. FREYMOND UNDERTOOK TO SERVE IN FUTURE AS REPOSITORY FOR INFO ON TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY. HE ALSO PROPOSED NEXT MEETING OF GROUP (WITH EXPERTS) BE HELD FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 7, IN GENEVA, IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE PRESENCE THERE OF LINDT FOR FIRST MEETING OF NEW "CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE" WHICH WILL MEET SAME AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS PRACTICAL PROBLEMS OF RELIEF OPERATION. HE ASKED THAT FACT LUNS PLAN MEETING TO BE HELD IN GENEVA BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL. HE ALSO ASKED GON TO CHAIR MEETING IN ORDER AVOID ICRC'S RUFFLING FEATHERS OF COUNTRIES WHO PARTICIPATED IN DONOR COUNTRY MEETING LAST WEEK BUT WHICH NOT INCLUDED IN THIS GROUP. SCHIFF AGREED.

6. FREYMOND ALSO REPORTED ICRC HOPES CONVENE MEETING WITH AFRICAN RED CROSS ORGANIZATIONS END OF MARCH. ALL THESE EFFORTS, HE SAID, MOVING MORE OR LESS IN SAME DIRECTION AND ICRC WELCOMES TASK OF COORDINATION. HE CLOSED WITH PRAISE FOR PRESIDENT NIXON'S SUPPORT OF RELIEF EFFORT. THEN IN POSTSCRIPT, HE STATED IT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR "DYNAMICS" OF NEW ICRC 6-MONTH PLAN THAT GOVERNMENTS PROVIDE SOONEST SPECIFIC FIGURES ON CONTRIBUTIONS THAT CAN BE PUBLISHED. IF FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS NOT FORTHCOMING QUICKLY, HE FEARED ALSO THAT ICRC EFFORTS IN MARCH WOULD BE HINDERED.

7. COMMENT: IT REMAINS BE SEEN TO WHAT EXTENT DUTCH MAY ALLOW ICRC TO TAKE PROJECT LEADERSHIP AWAY FROM THEM, BUT MEETING CERTAINLY MOVED THINGS IN THAT DIRECTION. EMBOFF GOT IMPRESSION THAT WARM RECEPTION OF LUNS PLAN BY GOVERNMENTS MORE QUESTION OF DISINCLINATION SAY NO TO ANY REASONABLE PROPOSAL TO INCREASE RELIEF EFFORT THAN OF CONVICTION THAT STRESS SHOULD BE PLACED ON WATER ROUTE AT THIS TIME. EMBOFF WAS NOT CALLED ON AT MEETING AND, SINCE VIEWS CONTAINED STATE 28892 MADE

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

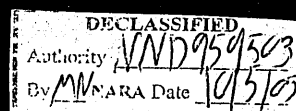
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PAGE 03 THE HA 00801 02 OF 02 0109097

KNOWN TO MFA IN ADVANCE, DID NOT ASK FOR FLOOR. HOWEVER,
SWEDISH COMMENT AND LATER PRIVATE COMMENT BY MFA'S
HUYDECOPER THAT DEPARTMENT HAD TOLD NETH EMBASSY IT
HAD INFORMATION FROM LAGOS INDICATING PLAN TECHNICALLY
UNFEASIBLE BOTH POINT TO ADVISABILITY OF US REP
AT NEXT MEETING BEING ABLE TO CLARIFY U.S. POSITION.
NEXT SESSION MIGHT ALSO PROVIDE USEFUL OPPORTUNITY
FOR U.S. EXPERTS TO MEET WITH LINDT AND OTHER KEY
FIGURES WHO WILL BE IN GENEVA FOR CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEE MEETING. WE HOPE DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE
RESPONSE TO MFA INQUIRY ON SHALLOW WATER CRAFT (HAGUE 732)
PRIOR TO NEXT MEETING. TYLER

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POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 791

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00593 280859Z

77
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00,
CCO 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,
AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, O 02, OPR 03, OC 06, RSR 01,
UPW 01, /149 W

079296

0 P 280843Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 464
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMCONSUL DOUALA

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 593

REF: A) STATE 031083; B) LAGOS 1774; C) COTONOU 228

1. ICRC GENEVA INFORMATION ADDS TO REF C ONLY THAT IT RUMORED
IN SANTA ISABEL THAT "HIGH SPANISH REP" IN FERNANDO PO HAS BEEN
DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA AND THAT BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
POSSIBLE. HOWEVER ATMOSPHERE CALM FEBRUARY 27. ICRC ANTICIPATES
NO INTERFERENCE WITH FLIGHTS.

2. ICRC UNDERSTANDS PRES MACIAS RETURNED FERNANDO PO FROM RIO
MUNI LAST NIGHT OR RETURNING TODAY. SPECULATES TODAY SHOULD BE
KEY TO WHETHER FRICTION BETWEEN GEG AUTHORITIES AND SPANISH ON
FERNANDO PO GETS BETTER OR WORSE.

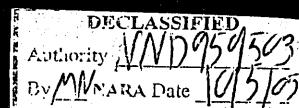
3. ICRC EXPECTS TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH ITS REP SANTA ISABEL LATER
THIS MORNING. REP MAY NOT BE ABLE SPEAK FREELY BUT ICRC WILL
ENDEAVOR GET CLEARER PICTURE. MISSION WILL ADVISE ANY FURTHER
INFORMATION. TUBBY

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GENEVA-593
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75



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 263

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00600 281543Z

53
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, UPW 01, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CCO 00, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, R9C 01, SP 02,
SS 20, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, E 15, RSR 01, 153 W
081491

O P 281530Z FEB 69 ZFF-4
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 472
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY
AMCONSUL DOUALA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 600

SUBJ: SITUATION EQUATORIAL GUINEA; ICRC RELIEF FLIGHTS

REF: GENEVA 593

1. ON BASIS TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH ICRC REP SANTA ISABEL
AT ABOUT 1400Z, ICRC GENEVA (ZIMMERMAN) INFORMS MISSION
GEG HAS DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY (AUSNAMEZUSTAND).
HOWEVER THERE HAVE BEEN "NO INCIDENTS, NO SHOOTING".
ATMOSPHERE "CALM BUT TENSE".

2. ICRC REPORTS NO INTERFERENCE WITH AIRLIFT AT SANTA
ISABEL END. HOWEVER, ICRC PLANES FROM SANTA ISABEL ENCOUNTERED
BIAFRAN ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE LAST NIGHT (PROBABLY DUE MIS-
IDENTIFICATION AIRCRAFT) AND PILOTS REFUSING FLY TONIGHT. ICRC
GENEVA INFORMING LINDT WHO EXPECTED IN COTONOU THIS AFTERNOON.
HOPES LINDT WILL PROCEED BIAFRA TO DISCUSS WITH BIAFRAN
AUTHORITIES.

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GENEVA - 600
2-28 69

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By MN NARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 465

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00610 281711Z

50
ACTION AF 18

INFO ID 13, EUR 15, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, CIAE 00, 1

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, 6/10

SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 150 W

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R 281700Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 482
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 610

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. IN FOLLOW-UP WITH GALLOPIN RE FOOD ASSESSMENT TEAMS FOR BIAFRA, HE SAID "IMPORTANT AND URGENT MESSAGE" SENT TO LINDT URGING HE MOVE PROMPTLY SET UP SUCH A TEAM IN VIEW NEED MORE DETAILED INFORMATION THAN PRESENTLY AVAILABLE AND "SINCE U.S. DECISION RE FURTHER DONATIONS STILL OPEN".

2. GALLOPIN SAID, HOWEVER, THAT SURVEY TAKE SOME TIME AFTER APPOINTMENT TEAM, EVEN ASSUMING BIAFRAN COOPERATION WITH ITS WORK.

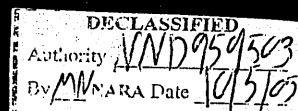
3. ICRC NOW HAS ONLY 5 MILLION SWISS FRANCS AVAILABLE FOR RELIEF OPERATIONS, ABOUT A THIRD OF WHAT IS NEEDED FOR MARCH. COMMITTEE HOPES THEREFORE, THAT FURTHER U.S. CONTRIBUTION SOON BE AVAILABLE.

4. FREYMOND AND GALLOPIN HOPE VERY MUCH THAT DEAN FERGUSON WILL SOON BE ABLE TO COME TO GENEVA FOR CONSULTATION.
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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-
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NIGERIA
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TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 717

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00611 282015Z

44
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, AID 28, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, 9
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SCS 04, SCA 01,
SR 01, ORM 03, UPW 01, RSR 01, 150 W

R 281720Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 483
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 611

CORRECTED COPY FOR TEXT

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: A) BIAFRAN AIRSTRIP; 2) INSPECTION
SAO TOME CARGOES

1. REFERRING TO UNCONFIRMED PRESS STORIES THAT CANAIR RELIEF WAS
UNDERTAKING TO BUILD NEW RELIEF AIRSTRIP IN BIAFRA, CHENARD
(JCA/CRS) WONDERED TO MISSION WHETHER U.S. MONEY MIGHT BE INVOLVED.
CHENARD SAID WILLIAM BERNHARDT OF MARKPRESS (BIAFRAN INFO AGENCY)
HAD BEEN IN US ABOUT THREE WEEKS AGO, HAD SPOKEN TO US LEGISLATORS,
AND HAD PROBABLY SUGGESTED US GIVE FINANCIAL BACKING TO SUCH
EFFORT. ACCORDING CHENARD, CANAIR DOES NOT HAVE RESOURCES TO
DO JOB. JCA/CRS HAD TO RAISE MONEY IN EUROPE TO HELP CANAIR
TO PROCURE CONSTELLATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO JCA SAO TOME AIRLIFT.

2. MISSION ASSURED CHENARD IT HAD NO INFORMATION TENDING IN ANY
WAY SUBSTANTIATE ASSUMPTION US MONEY MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN
CONSIDERATION CONSTRUCTION NEW AIRSTRIP. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE
ANY INFO DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE AS TO VERACITY PRESS STORIES CANAIR
INTEREST IN BUILDING AIRSTRIP, AND ANY OTHER AVAILABLE BACKGROUND.

3. ON POSSIBLE SWISS GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS
INSPECTION SAO TOME CARGOES (GENEVA 534, PARAS 8 AND 9)
CHENARD SAYS JCA/CRS NOW EXPECTS YES OR NO ANSWER FROM GOS
ON MONDAY, MARCH 3.

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Authority VND 959503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
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XN SOC 3 RED CROSS
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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00605 281651Z

40
ACTION AID 28

INFO EUR 15, AF 12, IO 13, UPW 01, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, E 15, L 03,
SFW 02, INR 07, JPM 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12,
RSR 01, /127 W

R 281600Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 476
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 605

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF; ICELANDIC STOCKFISH; ICRC BUDGET

REF: A) STATE 23209; B) STATE 554, PARA 4.

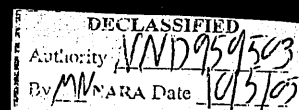
1. IN LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 25 TO AMBASSADOR, AMMANN OF ICRC EXPRESSES ICRC APPRECIATION US AID CONTRIBUTION \$300,000 FOR ICELANDIC STOCKFISH. AMMANN STATES CONTRIBUTION WAS MOREOVER HELPFUL STIMULATING OTHER DONORS. AS RESULT MS. GRYOTEY SAILING REYKJAVIK FEBRUARY 25 WITH 470 TONS STOCKFISH FOR LAGOS/CALABAR, AND MS LAGA MARCH 1 WITH 550 TONS FOR COTONOU (FOR "BIAFRA").

2. OTHER DONORS "JOINING IN THIS ACTION" ARE FRG (THROUGH GERMAN RC); CASH FOR 370 TONS, RADDA BARNENS, STOCKHOLM; FUNDS FOR 100 TONS; ICELANDIC RED CROSS; 100 TONS.

3. AMMANN LETTER ADDS THAT IN ACCORDANCE US WISH (REF A) "WE SHALL INCORPORATE STOCKFISH REQUIREMENTS IN OUR NEXT BUDGET IN ORDER TO ASSURE WORLD-WIDE FUNDS FOR FUTURE PURCHASES". HOWEVER, AS REPORTED REF B, THIS ENCOUNTERED SOME OPPOSITION FROM OTHER QUARTERS WITHIN ICRC. AMMANN NOW INFORMS MISSION ADDENDUM TO BUDGET WILL INDICATE NEED FOR ABOUT 4,000 TONS STOCKFISH IN NEXT SIX MONTHS BEYOND WHAT NOW EXPECTED IN DONATIONS, AND WILL REQUEST EITHER ADDITIONAL DONATIONS OR FUNDS FOR PURCHASE. AMOUNT OF SF 12 MILLION WILL BE GIVEN AS AMOUNT REQUIRED UNLESS NEED FOR CASH REDUCED BY

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32

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

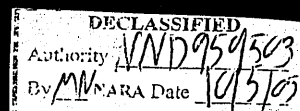
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00605 281651Z

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS IN KIND.
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37 -

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH

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CONTROLLED DISSEM*Intelligence
Note* - 137

February 28, 1969

To : The Acting Secretary
Through: S/S
From : INR - George C. Denney, Jr. *G.C.D.*
Subject: EQUATORIAL GUINEA: President Macias Threatens to Expel
The Spanish

Spain is preparing for the possible evacuation of its citizens from newly independent Equatorial Guinea following President Francisco Macias' bitter denunciation of Spanish neo-colonialism and at least one clash between Spanish Civil Guards and local National Guardsmen. The outcome of the present crisis depends in large measure on the mental state of the mercurial Macias, but cooler heads on his Council of Ministers--which meets tomorrow in Bata--may prevail.

An Exchange of Insults... The crisis apparently stems from a confrontation between Equatorial Guinea President Macias and the Spanish Ambassador. Reports from Equatorial Guinea are contradictory, but the argument probably resulted from an incident earlier this week in which Macias personally ordered his National Guard troops to remove Spanish flags flying over Spanish-owned establishments in the mainland provincial capital of Bata. When the Spanish Ambassador protested, Macias became enraged, accused the Ambassador of being an imperialist, and ordered that he and all his countrymen leave Equatorial Guinea immediately.

(3)
This report was produced by the Bureau of Intelligence and Research. Aside from normal substantive exchange with other agencies at the working level, it has not been coordinated elsewhere.

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Downgraded at 12 year
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POL EQ GUIN - SP

XR PS 7-6 SP-EQ GUIN

POL 27-9 BIAFKA-NIGERIA

0204

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Authority VND 954/503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

46

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

051484
20 FEB 69 12 56
FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin ACTION: Mr. Robert Shoemaker
Info: 3931 Kings Highway
Dayton, Ohio 45406

President Nixon has asked that we reply to the telegram of February 20 signed by 8,600 citizens of Dayton. The President and this Administration share your concern about the present situation in Nigeria and the plight of the people on both sides of the fighting lines. As this situation cannot be fully covered by a telegram I am mailing you several copies of a statement which shows what America is doing in the relief effort and explains our policy on various aspects of this problem. I hope you can make this information available to the concerned people of Dayton.

Richard I. Phillips
Richard I. Phillips
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Public Affairs

PL 279 BIA FPA - NIGERIA

①	Drafted by:	Tel. Ext.	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:
	P/PS:RGCCleveland, OH 2/27/69	2830	P:RIPhillips, Acting
Clearances:			

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Classification

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Authority VND 954503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

46



POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 770

PAGE 01 YAOUNDE 00337 280830Z

ACTION: AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00

JRM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

USIA 12, RSR 01, UPW 01, /150 W

079191

R 280625Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2972
INFO AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL YAOUNDE 337

FOLLOWING MSG RECEIVED FROM SANTA ISABEL FOR TRANSMISSION:

QUOTE:

FROM SANTA ISABEL:

SINCE ICRC RESUMED NIGHT FLIGHTS FROM SANTA ISABEL FEB. 12,
TOTAL OF 23 FLIGHTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO ULI THROUGH FEB. 24.
DURING THIS PERIOD, 230 TONS OF FOODSTUFFS AND OTHER SUPPLIES
HAVE BEEN DELIVERED FROM FERNANDO PO BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS:
STOCKFISH, 167.5 TONS; BABY FOOD, 17.5 TONS; RICE, 15.0 TONS;
CLOTHING, 10.0 TONS; AND MISCELLANEOUS FOODSTUFFS, 20.0 TONS.

ONLY DC-7 CURRENTLY FLYING OUT OF SANTA ISABEL IS AVERAGING
ABOUT TWO FLIGHTS PER NIGHT DEPENDING UPON WEATHER AND PRESENCE
OF FMG AIRCRAFT IN VICINITY OF ULI. ANOTHER DC-7 EXPECTED ARRIVE
FERNANDO PO FEB. 24 AND THIRD DC-7 SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE ON FEB. 28.

ICRC HOPES TO HAVE ALL THREE AIRCRAFT IN OPERATION SIMULTANEOUSLY.

SINCE RESUMPTION OF ICRC FLIGHTS ON FEB. 12, NIGHT OPERATIONS
HERE HAVE GONE SMOOTHLY AND AIRPORT AND POLICE AUTHORITIES HAVE
BEEN MOST COOPERATIVE WITH RED CROSS PERSONNEL. ONLY PROBLEM

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2-28-69



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02: YAOUND 00337 280830Z

DURING LAST TWELVE DAYS HAS BEEN WITH ONE NATIONAL GUARD SARGEANT STATIONED AT AIRPORT WHO BY THREATENING RED CROSS PERSONNEL WITH HIS PISTOL AND INSISTING ON TIME-CONSUMING INSPECTION OF EVERY ITEM BEING TRANSPORTED HAS UPSET FLIGHT OPERATIONS AND PLAGUED CREWS WITH HIS IMPERIOUS MANNER. ICRC CHIEF OF STAFF WILL TAKE UP THIS PROBLEM WITH SPANISH COMMANDER OF NATIONAL GUARD.

GENERAL SATISFACTORY OPERATION OF FLIGHTS FROM HERE MAY BE DUE IN LARGE PART TO ABSENCE OF MININT MACIE WHO NOW IN GABON ON GOOD-WILL MISSION. NO RPT NO NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED SINCE RESUMPTION OF FLIGHTS PENDING RETURN OF FONMIN FROM ADDIS ABABA AND MADRID AS WELL AS RETURN OF LINDT. ABSENCE OF MOST OSYGOEG IN RIO MUNI PREVENTS ME FROM GLEANING ANY INSIGHTS AT THIS TIME AS TO ULTIMATE OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS. WILLIAMS UNQUOTE. PAYTON

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DEPT. DISTRIBUTION				DEPARTMENT OF STATE		FILE DESIGNATION	
ORIGIN/ACTION				AIRGRAM			
RS/R	REP	AF	ARA	Original to be Filed in <u>Decentralized Files.</u>			
EUR	FE	NEA	CU	UNCLASSIFIED		A-373	
5				HANDLING INDICATOR		NO.	
INR	E	P	IO	TO : Department of State		DATE: February 27, 1969	
5	4	2	5	INFO : COTONOU, LAGOS, LOME, USUN, YAOUNDE		SMP	
3	SCA	AID	SCS	FROM : Amembassy LONDON		BSPR	
3	ORM	S/P	IGA	SUBJECT : Nigerian Relief: Waste and Spoilage Alleged		file	
1	2	1	1	REF :			
AGR	COM	FRB	INT				
10	10						
LAB	TAR	TR	XMB				
AIR	ARMY	NAVY	OSD				
10	3	20					
USIA	NSA	CIA					
10	3	20					
SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION				<p>Attached for the information of addressees is an article from the London Observer of February 23 by stringer David Robison which alleges that quantities of American canned goods intended for victims of the Nigerian civil war are going to waste in Sao Tome. Robison states that the goods are assorted foodstuffs like pea soup mix, sliced beetroot and raspberry pudding which are put aside in favor of higher priority items and will probably never reach their destination.</p> <p>BRUCE</p> <p>ENCLOSURE: Article from <u>Observer</u></p>			
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POST ROUTING							
TO:	Action	Info.	Initials				
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Authority: VND959503
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

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LONDON ENCLOSURE A-373
Page 1 of 1

THE OBSERVER, 23 FEBRUARY 1969

Where a fried rat costs £1

from DAVID ROBISON

UMUAHIA, Biafra, 22 February
'CHARITY begins at home,' says a sign on a Biafran lorry, and villagers here are burning foliage, clearing land, and signing up for the Land Army Agriculture Programme.

There are few boys and men below 35 to work the land—recruiting and conscription have taken them. But officials hope that in four months, provided that seeds are sent from abroad, enough maize, yams, and vegetables will begin to be harvested to reduce the starch crisis and Biafra's dependence on outside food aid.

Of all the relief foul-ups, the pile of American canned goods being unloaded at the Portuguese island of Sao Tome is the most pathetic. The pile is half a football field long, 12 yards wide, 10 feet high, and is growing rapidly.

Most of the cardboard boxes have broken, and thousands upon thousands of cans are being unloaded by sweating stevedores, who toss them on to the dock from lighters, a few cans at a time.

The cans came from New Yorkers who contributed them in shopping bags at collection points round the city during the Christmas season. 'It is all pudding,' says Wilfred Gunther, the official receiving agent on Sao Tome for Joint Church Aid.

The shame

He states flatly: 'This stuff will never go to Biafra.' The cans are low priority compared to the 7,000 tons of stockfish and American corn meal piled up in Sao Tome warehouses, waiting for space on the planes. 'We don't know what to do with the tinned food,' Gunther says. 'We can't dump it—it is a donation. We can't send it back. It would be costly to resack it properly. In the end we will have to store it and give up space needed for stockfish.'

Poor Americans, said Tony Legg, an exporter from South Africa, as we picked up some of the cans. About one-third were rusted, bent, or without labels. 'They mean so well. That is the shame of it.'

Among the 1,500 tons of canned goods were Ambrosia instant breakfast, Smoky Green pea soup mix, sliced beetroot, and potato sticks with a special offer of a camera outfit. A large proportion were Sweet Magic ready-to-serve dessert—raspberry flavour. A guard said a lot of pilfering was going on.

Biafran villages and markets are a stark contrast to the plenty on the Sao Tome docks. Dirt roads have a constant traffic of women going to market, carrying large, white bowls on their heads. Most of the bowls are empty.

These are some prices in a market along the Umuahia-Owerri road: fowl are £26 each; salt, 1d. before the war, is 3s.; white ants are 1d.; yams, 1s. each before the war, are £4; fried rats are £1 each.

Barter, credit

The women said they walked to the stream for water once or twice a day, six miles away. At 9 a.m. the market closed—for fear of bombing. Women scooped up their little pile of groundnuts, bean seeds, snails, or flying insects. A local councillor said: 'They go home empty. No money.'

New Biafran money is now in circulation, but for a month almost everything was bought on barter or credit. The old money, printed abroad on poor-quality paper, had worn out. 'Prices were a figure of speech,' admitted Colonel Ojukwu, Biafra's Head of State.

People with any education are vociferous that they will fight the war to the end. Traders in the market, displaying incredibly old things, say that they have accepted all hardships as part of the war. Obed Omwokei, a 21-year-old lorry driver, said: 'Ojukwu? He is the greatest in Africa. Even if we are crushed, he will still be a hero to me.'

A predominant impression here is people expect the war to be a long one, and that they will go on with it.

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Authority VND 959503
By MVA Date 01/5/03

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
TR POL 32-1 DAHOMEY-NIGERIA

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

INFO: Amembassy COTONOU
" ACCRA
" LOME
" ABIDJAN
" LONDON
" PARIS
US Mission GENEVA

POL 32-1 Dahomey-Nigeria
TR FT 25-5 Nigeria

REF: Lagos 1729, Cotonou 221 and 223

SUBJECT: Nigeria-Dahomey Border Controls

1. Despite Baba Gana denial to UKHICOMER that FMG closing of Dahomey-Nigeria border was retaliation for ICRC operation from Dahomey, effect on African and world public opinion when this action becomes generally known will be harmful to FMG image, as pointed out by Lindt. This would be case whether decision taken to inhibit illegal commerce (which we doubt), or to harass ~~Dahomeans~~ Dahomeans.
2. President Zinsou, who will see President and Secretary during private visit to US next week, can be expected to bring up this issue ~~and~~.
3. Embassy requested follow up UKHICOMER's demarche at higher ~~xxx~~ level with FMG, making use of foregoing info as appropriate.

GP-3

END

Drafted by: AF/CW:EJNadelman:iw 2/26/69 Tel. Ext. 6061 Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF/CW- William E. Schaefe

Cleerances:

AF/W - Mr. Melbourne

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0210

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959/503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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Classification

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

33

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LONDON
PARIS
US MISSION GENEVA
USUN NY
CINCSTRIKE
Amconsul IBADAN
KADUNA

SUBJECT: Nigeria Press Summary - February 26-27

1. NYTimes February 26 contains Garrison story from Uli headed two relief projects causing distress. Americans being blamed for failure Abie Nathan's Biafra Christmas Ship to deliver kind of food urgently needed Biafra - proteins and carbohydrates. Vessel carried such relatively exotic fare as strawberry, Vanilla puddings, sweet dill pickles, barbecue sauce, dubbed here as the pudding ship. Most of its cargo will never reach Biafra from Sao Tome. Hugh Loyd of WCC said "The pudding ship would be something straight out of Gilbert and Sullivan if it weren't so senseless." But there is nothing even remotely amusing about breakdown in American airlift. Revolt of American pilots flying C-97s for church groups has severely crippled airlift. Scandinavian pilot said we told you so. "You should have sent us professional pilots and crews, not amateurs. Your people here are all weekend flyers from your Air National Guard. What are needed are professional pilots who make living in charter business and who have flown in similar conditions world over." Result is for first time since airlift began a year ago, Red Cross sending more into Biafra than churches. Daily

Drafted by:

AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 2/27/69

Tel. Ext.
2105

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

Nigeria Task Force:
RMMelbourne

Clearances:

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Classification

FORM DS-322
8-65

0211

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Authority VND 954503
By MNA Date 10/3/05

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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Origin ACTION: Page two of telegram to Amembasy LAGOS

Info: average relief inflow down from 190 tons to 120. List of foodstuffs stacked on Sao Tome wharf in hundred flimsy badly packed cardboard cartons split open during unloading, debris on wharf resembles garbage dump size of football field. Wildred Gunther, official receiving agent on Sao Tome said from relief point of view more than 70 percent Nathan cargo totally unacceptable. Times adds ~~xxxx~~ from New York that secretary-treasurer of JCA warned Nathan in Dec 13 letter "the present project you have in mind could end in a fiasco." Edward Kinney of CRS, letter writer, said that when Xmas ship sailed, CARE and church services put more than 2,400 tons standard relief cargo aboard, as space needed because dockers' strike had blocked other ships. Kinney said, consequently only 600 tons of food aboard improperly packed and of doubtful usefulness. He said effective food to Biafra limited to properly packaged rice, dried fish, beans, and meal of corn, soya beans and dried milk. Said transporting canned soup extravagant because soup is largely water. JCA includes Protestant, Catholic groups from Scandinavia, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Austria and Italy as well as US. American Jewish Conference also part of American organization. Biafra Relief Foundation, which has no ties with JCA, formed year ago by "Americans in cooperation with some Biafrans" according spokesman, who said foundation sponsored two flights Biafra carrying food and medical supplies and also Xmas ship.

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Clearances:		

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Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0212

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By MVA Date 10/3/05

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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Origin

ACTION: Page 3 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

2. Wall Street Journal has front page Feb 26 piece by George Melloan from Port Harcourt giving picture increasing Nigerian hostility to foreigners, with Adekunle and other quotes.

3. Balt Sun Feb 27 reports swearing in of Ferguson under head US spurns role as peacemaker. Acting Secretary Richardson stressed Nixon Administration determination avoid political or peacemaking involvement in civil war. Meanwhile talking newsmen Umuahia Ojukwu said there really only two countries which can bring peace this part of world. He would like to see Nixon Administration make move toward a peace initiative. Story cites President Nixon Feb 22 statement that Ferguson will not seek and will not accept charge to negotiate issues other than those directly relevant to relief.

4. Times Feb 27 has Garrison piece from Ozu-Abam, Biafra under head bomber kills 120 in Biafra town after Lagos proclaims a truce. Majority dead in bombing were women and small children. Highest civilian toll since bombing of market three weeks ago at Afor Umuahagu where ICRC put toll at 312, also mostly women, children. First word today's raid came from Father Raymond Maher, Dublin missionary who brought several wounded to Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Umuahia, 22 miles from Ozu-Abam. He returned in his pickup with several physicians and foreign correspondents. Raid took place at 11 a.m. At 3:30 p.m. scene

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

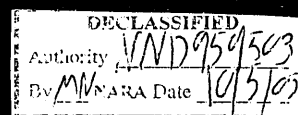
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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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Origin

ACTION: Page 4 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

still one of carnage. Sixty-five bodies could be counted, of victims who still not identified by relatives and carried away for burial. Father Maher said on his arrival 20 minutes after bombs struck bodies so thick across ruined market ~~xxx~~ place "it was almost impossible to walk around, much less count the dead." Ozu-Abam is small farm community 15 miles from front line without army outpost or civil defense unit. Witnesses said bomber made two passes. Correspondents counted six craters in area no larger than football field spread with market stalls. Two bombs appeared have been incendiaries that left bodies charred beyond recognition and seared grass for fifty yards between market and post office, maternity clinic and dispensary. All three buildings demolished. 5. Wash Post carries brief piece on same raid, saying it took place 12 hours after beginning 48-hour cease-fire. During morning Feb 27 AP and UPI wire services carrying similar accounts Ozu-Abam raid. Reuters Lagos ~~xxx~~ says Nigerian air force spokesman denied any knowledge of the attack. "Certainly I know nothing of such an attack." Asked to comment on details witness report from Ozu-Abam, air force spokesman said "I have no report of this nature." He added that AF commander Shittu Alao gave orders there be definitely no raids during truce period which expires midnight Thursday. Spokesman said he could add

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Telegraphic transmission and
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FORM
8-65 DS-322

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Authority <u>VND 959503</u>
By <u>MW</u> NARA Date <u>10/3/05</u>

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

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Origin

ACTION: Page 5 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

nothing more until fuller reports came in. Reuters says spokesman said certain missions which he did not specify were carried out yesterday but these were "part of a long-term project."

END

ACTING

[Handwritten signature]

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

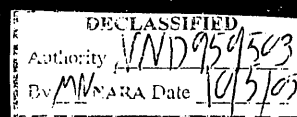
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FORM
8-65 DS-322

0215



66

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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February 27, 1969

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

Participants: Senator Edward Brooke
Joseph Palmer 2nd, AF

Senator Brooke telephoned me regarding two matters.

1. The Ambassador of Zambia had asked his assistance in getting an invitation for President Kaunda to visit the U.S. this spring or early summer. I told the Senator that we have such a visit in mind and I agreed that Kaunda should have a high priority. However, there are a great many world leaders desiring to visit the U.S. and I could not be sure how this visit would fare when the final decisions are made. The Senator indicated that he might send a letter to the President on the subject.

2. Pius Okigbo had met with Senator Brooke yesterday for a relatively long discussion, the purpose of which was to convey Ojukwu's invitation and strong hope that the Senator would visit Biafra since he had been to the other side. Ojukwu had also said that his safety would be guaranteed. The Senator asked my unofficial position on such a visit, adding that he did not want to try to inject himself as a mediator in the situation. I told him that such a visit would obviously upset the FMG and that Ojukwu would undoubtedly play it up. However, I understood the Senator's interest in seeing both sides of the question. I asked if he had to make a decision soon since it occurred to me that it might be helpful to hold his visit in abeyance in case Clyde Ferguson later needs some unblocking action. I promised to call the Senator after we had a chance to give careful consideration to his invitation.

2
Senator Brooke had also seen Ambassador Iyalla and had sent a letter to General Gowon relative to the allegation

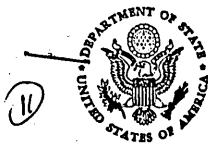
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POC 7 ZAMBIA
JR POC 97-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

0216

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05



POL 7 DAHOMEY
XR AID(US) DAHOMEY
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XL POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL 208

PAGE 01 COTONO 00226 271115Z

22
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, AID 28, SR 01,
ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, AGR 20, CPR 02, SY 04, O 02, OPR 03, E 15, IGA 02,
RSR 01, 198 W

P R 270853Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1907
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL COTONOU 226

SUBJECT: ZINSOU VISIT

REF: COTONOU 224 - POL 7 DAHOMEY

1. INCLUSION FONMIN BADAROU AND SEC GEN PLAN TAGNON IN ZINSOU
ENTOURAGE FOR WASHINGTON VISIT SUGGESTS HE HAS BEEN INFLUENCED
BY ZOLLNER TO BELIEVE HE HAS POSSIBILITY OF SECURING RESUMPTION
BILATERAL ASSISTANCE FROM US AND WILL MAKE PROPOSALS TO THIS
END. WILL PROBABLY LEAD OFF, HOWEVER, WITH EXPOSITION HIS
VIEWS NIGERIAN SITUATION AND RELATED DAHOMEAN POLICY.

2. NIGERIAN SITUATION. ZINSOU UNDOUBTEDLY WILL DWELL AT
LENGTH ON DAHOMEAN POLICY RE NIGERIAN SITUATION, ESPECIALLY
DECISION TO PERMIT AIRLIFT COTONOU-BIAFRA. WILL OF COURSE GIVE
HUMANITARIAN EXPLANATION DECISION GRD TO PERMIT SUPPLY OF FOOD
AND MEDICINES TO BIAFRA AND EVACUATION WOUNDED BIAFRAN SOLDIERS.
ZINSOU WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ATTRIBUTE CURRENT LIMITATIONS ON
DAHOMEAN VEHICLES CROSSING NIGERIAN FRONTIER TO FMG RETALIATION
AND MAY ASK FOR US INTERVENTION IN LAGOS TO SECURE RELAXATION
OF THESE RESTRICTIONS. WHILE ZINSOU UNLIKELY TO ASK FOR US BI-
LATERAL ASSISTANCE AS REWARD FOR APPROVAL OF AIRLIFT, HE MAY
WELL POINT UP THAT FMG ACTION IS GRAVE ATTACK AGAINST DAHOMEAN
ECONOMY WHICH IN PRESENT STATE IS EXCEEDINGLY VULNERABLE TO

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pol 23-9

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By MWA Date 10/3/05

PAGE(S) MISSING IN ORIGINAL

0218

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By	MMARA Date 10/3/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria

CONFIDENTIAL 766

PAGE 01 LONDON 01608 271833Z

53 S
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, AID 28, SR 01,
ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, /150 W

R 271735Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9074
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 1603

075255

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 1608

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: OBILAGO AND OTHER PROPOSALS

REF: STATE 029985

1. WE DISCUSSED DEPT'S VIEWS ON OBILAGO STOCKPILING PROPOSAL THIS MORNING (FEB 27) WITH FONOFF'S TEBBIT (ASS'T UNDERSECTY) AND BARDER (WEST AFRICAN DEPT). TEBBIT'S REACTION WAS THAT LINDT AND FMG WERE UNLIKELY TO BEGIN STOCKPILING SUPPLIES SOON. NOTHING HAPPENED FAST IN LAGOS AND EVEN IF PROJECT WERE ACCORDED TOP PRIORITY BY NIGERIAN GOVT AND RED CROSS (WHICH WAS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN), IT WOULD DOUBTLESS BE SEVERAL WEEKS BEFORE SUPPLIES BEGAN TO MOVE. TEBBIT THOUGHT THIS SHOULD GIVE AMPLE TIME FOR PRESSURE TO BE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON OJUKWU TO ACCEPT OBILAGO AIR/LAND CORRIDOR.

2. TEBBIT AND BARDER EXPRESSED OPINION IT WAS UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT FMG NOT TO CASH IN ON OJUKWU'S PROCRASTINATION ABOUT PLAN WHICH HAD, AFTER ALL, ORIGINATED IN BIAFRAN CAMP. IN BRITISH VIEW, STOCKPILING OF SUPPLIES AT OBILAGO WAS WORTHWILE OBJECTIVE, AND IT WAS AT LEAST ARGUABLE THAT, IF OJUKWU WAS SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN BREAKING RELIEF DEADLOCK,

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/00



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PAGE 02 LONDON 01608 271833Z

MOVEMENT OF SUPPLIES TO OBILAGO WOULD PUT PRESSURE ON HIM TO ACCEPT PROPOSAL. FOR THESE REASONS TEBBIT PREFERRED TO LET MATTER RIDE. BRITISH WOULD NOT, HOWEVER, PROMOTE PROJECT ANY FURTHER FOR TIME BEING. FURTHERMORE, WHILE TEBBIT DID NOT SHARE OUR MISGIVINGS, HE SAID BRITISH WOULD UNDERSTAND IF EMBASSY LAGOS EXPLAINED THEM TO LINDT AND ITSELF URGED DELAY ON THAT BASIS.

3. TEBBIT ADDED THAT THERE WERE OTHER RELIEF INITIATIVES WHICH OJUKWU COULD SEIZE UPON IF HE WERE LOOKING FOR PLAUSIBLE EXCUSES TO TURN DOWN OBILAGO PROPOSAL. REUTERS, FEB. 25, FOR EXAMPLE, HAD CARRIED SHORT ITEM WITH UMUHIA DATELINE REPORTING CANADIAN RELIEF ORGANIZATION (CANAIR) HAD AGREED TO BUILD NEW RELIEF AIRSTrip IN BIAFRA. TEBBIT THOUGHT THIS WAS RESULT OF EFFORTS OF DR. E.A. JOHNSON, REP OF CANADIAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WHO WAS RECENTLY IN BIAFRA DISCUSSING RELIEF PROBLEMS. TEBBIT SAID HE UNDERSTOOD JOHNSON HAD SPOKEN TO DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS IN WASHINGTON ON WAY HOME BUT WAS NOT SURE WHETHER HE HAD REFERRED TO NEW AIRSTrip. BRITISH FEARED THAT CANADIAN PROPOSAL, WHICH WOULD CERTAINLY BE UNACCEPTABLE TO FMG, WOULD UNDERCUT OBILAGO PLAN AND FURTHER COMPLICATE PROBLEM OF FINDING CORRIDOR ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES. BRUCE

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0220

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MM-ARA Date 10/3/05



Pol 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA ✓
X2 Pol 27 9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA ✓
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET 308

PAGE 01 PARIS 02879 271207Z

42 S
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15,SSO 00,NSCE 00,USIE 00,CIAE 00,IO 13,SR 01,ORM 03,DODE. 00,
JPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,
UPW 01,ACDA 16,AID 28,RSR 01,149 W 073241

Q R 271130Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1489 IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON

SECRET PARIS 2879

ROME FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS OF BIAFRA

1. EMBOFF SAW QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR NON FRENCH AFRICA (GUEURY) AFTERNOON FEB 26 TO ASK WHAT FONMIN DEBRE MIGHT SAY TO SECRETARY ROGERS ABOUT BIAFRA. GUEURY SAID HE HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN ASKED PREPARE ANY SPECIAL PAPER ON SUBJECT FOR DEBRE AND UNAWARE OF ANY NEW INITIATIVES OR POLICY CHANGE ENVISAGED BY FRANCE. HE WENT ON TO REITERATE BASIC ELEMENTS FRENCH POSITION WHICH HE THOUGHT DEBRE MIGHT DISCUSS WITH SECRETARY ROGERS.

2. KEY ELEMENT ACCORDING TO GUEURY, IS FRENCH DEDICATION TO SELF-DETERMINATION. IT IS POSSIBLE DEBRE MIGHT URGE US TO CALL FOR SELF-DETERMINATION OF IBO (NOT RPT NOT BIAFRA) PEOPLE, BUT NOT LIKELY IN VIEW OUR OWN PAST HISTORY (I.E. US CIVIL WAR) AND OUR SUPPORT FOR OAU. HOWEVER, DEBRE MIGHT SUGGEST WE URGE LAGOS TO AGREE TO CEASE FIRE WITHOUT PRE-CONDITIONS AND DIRECT TALKS BETWEEN GOWON AND OJUKWU.

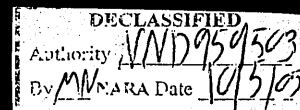
(COMMENT: THIS HAS BEEN BASIC FRENCH LINE FOR OVER ONE YEAR).

3. ACCORDING TO GUEURY, FRENCH ARE CONCERNED ABOUT MILITARY THREAT TO BIAFRA OVER REMAINING FEW WEEKS OF DRY SEASON. HOWEVER, IF BIAFRA

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PARIS 2879
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0221



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POL 23-8 DAHOMEY
XR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
XR POL 15-1 UVOLTA

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PAGE 01 OUAGAD 00256 281209Z

22
ACTION AF 18

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03,
SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, RSR 01, 150 W
----- 080294

R 271755Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2224
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY NIAHEY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 256

SUBJ: VOLTAN PRESIDENT LAMIZANA COMMENTS ON DAHOMEAN
SITUATION

1. PRESIDENT LAMIZANA TOLD ME YESTERDAY THAT HE AND
OTHER ENTENTE LEADERS INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT
SITUATION IN DAHOMEY. SAID DAHOMEAN POPULATION SEEMS
DISCONTENTED WITH WAY THEIR COUNTRY BEING RUN AND UNHAPPY
WITH DAHOMEAN GOVT'S BOWING TO FRENCH PRESSURE ON
QUESTION OF USING COTONOU AS A BASE FOR BIAFRAN RELIEF
OPERATIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION, LAMIZANA TOLD ZINZOU
HAD MISLED KINSHASA OCAM MEETING PARTICIPANTS BY ASSURING
THEM THAT HE HAD GOTTEN GOWON'S CONCURRENCE FOR DAHOMEAN
ROLE IN FOOD AIRLIFT TO NIGERIA. ACCORDING TO LAMIZANA,
GOWON HAD NOT RPT NOT IN FACT GIVEN FMG "CLEARANCE" TO
ZINZOU.

2. LAMIZANA ALSO IS WORRIED ABOUT WHAT HE CALLS "EYADEMA'S
EFFORTS TO SUBVERT DAHOMEY." SAID THAT EYADEMA HELPED
AHOMADEGBE AND ESPECIALLY MAGA BY PERMITTING THEM TO
ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH THEIR PEOPLE FROM TOGO. LAMIZANA
CONCERNED THAT SUCH ACTIVITIES WOULD JEOPARDIZE ENTENTE
RELATIONS AND POSE PROBLEM FOR OCAM AND OUA SUCH AS

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29

2-27-69
Ouagadougou 256

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0222

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Authority: VND 950503
By: MNARA Date: 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00591 271849Z

50
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, UPW 01, IO 13, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, CIAE 00,

CODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 150 W

075357

R 271710Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 462
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USUN NEW YORK 2801
USINT SANTA ISABEL

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 591

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC BIAFRA AIRLIFTS

REF: GENEVA 492

1. SANTA ISABEL: COMPLETED FLIGHTS NIGHTS FEBRUARY 19-26 AS
FOLLOWS: FEBRUARY 19:2; 20:0; 21:3; 22:2; 23:3; 24:0;
25:0; (ENGINE TROUBLE); 26 (WITH SECOND DC-7 ADDED):4. ABOUT
10 TONS PER FLIGHT.

2. NO FLIGHTS NIGHT FEBRUARY 24 BY ICRC FROM EITHER SANTA ISABEL
OR COTONOU, OR BY JCA FROM SAO TOME, ON INSTRUCTIONS BIAFRAN
AUTHORITIES. ULI AIRSTRIP REPORTEDLY HANDLED ONLY ARMS FLIGHTS
THAT NIGHT.

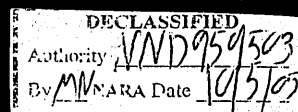
3. COTONOU: COMPLETED FLIGHTS NIGHTS FEBRUARY 19-26 AS FOLLOWS:

FEBRUARY	TOTAL	TRANSALL	DC-6(S)	DC-6(T)	DC-6(R)	TONS
19	8	2	1	2	3	77.3
20	2	0 (ENGINE)		1	0	21.0

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GENEVA-591
2-27-69

0223





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00591 271849Z

21	8	2	3	2	1	83.5
22	6	2	2	1	1	63.5
23	7	2	2	2	1	72.1
24	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	5	1	1	1	2	74.7
26	9	2	2	3	2	92.5

4. C-97G'S: ONE CARRIED 14.5 TONS SUPPLIES GENEVA-COTONOU FEBRUARY 25. DEVELOPED ENGINE TROUBLE, NOW IN NIAMEY (NO PARKING AT COTONOU). SECOND PLANE WHICH ARRIVED BASLE AFTER DIVERSION TO BRUSSELS IS AWAITING REPLACEMENT ENGINE, SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 3 FLIGHT GENEVA-COTONOU. THIRD PLANE DUE BASLE IN DAY OR TWO AND WILL ALSO BE USED CARRY SUPPLIES TO COTONOU.

5. ICRC GENEVA ON FEBRUARY 26 REQUESTED LINDT APPROVAL MOVE FOURTH PLANE US-BASLE IMMEDIATELY TO CANNIBALIZE IT FOR PARTS FOR OTHER THREE.

6. ICRC EXPECTS "TEST" C-97'S ON GENEVA-COTONOU RUN UNTIL SATISFIED IN GOOD CONDITION AND COTONOU AIRSTRIP EXPANSION COMPLETED. AFTER ALREADY COMPLETED FIRST PHASE EXPANSION, REMAINDER BEING DONE IN TWO ADDITIONAL STEPS TO BE COMPLETED MARCH 10 AND 20 RESPECTIVELY.
TUBBY

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0224

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Authority <u>VND959503</u>
By <u>MM</u> NARA Date <u>10/5/05</u>

RS/R FILES

Attention *Mrs. Mullett*
Keep this study together.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

S/S-2529

February 27, 1969

Copies To:

AF
AF/W
H
U
RF

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am referring to our telephone conversation of February 22, in which I informed you of the forthcoming appointment of Mr. Clarence Clyde Ferguson, Jr., as Special Coordinator on relief to the civilian victims of the Nigerian civil war. As you know, the appointment was announced by the White House later that day.

As indicated in the announcement, Mr. Ferguson will be charged with assuring that our contributions to the international relief effort are responsive to the increased needs and that they are effectively utilized. The appointment is not intended in any way to impinge upon, or undercut, the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as the coordinator of this international effort. Therefore, in searching for ways by which the flow of relief can be increased, Mr. Ferguson will work closely with the ICRC--as well as with other international relief agencies, the Organization of African Unity, donor governments and the parties to the conflict.

Mr. Ferguson's mandate is clear and unequivocal--he will deal only with relief matters. He will not be a political mediator, and his appointment does not imply United States political involvement in the civil war.

The Honorable

J. W. Fulbright,
Chairman, Foreign Relations Committee,
United States Senate,
Washington, D.C.

RECORDED BY RS/R

MICROFILMED
BY S/S: CMS.

0225

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 9501503
By MWA Date 10/3/05

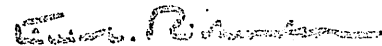
PL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

-2-

A copy of the White House announcement is enclosed.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,



Elliot L. Richardson
Acting Secretary

Enclosure:

White House announcement.

Retyped in U 2/26/69

0226

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 9509503
By	MW NARA Date 10/5/05

46

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON THE NAMING OF A SPECIAL
COORDINATOR ON RELIEF TO THE CIVILIAN VICTIMS OF
THE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR

I know that I speak for all Americans in expressing this nation's deep anguish for the terrible human suffering in the Nigerian civil war. It is tragic enough to watch a military conflict between peoples who once lived together in peace and developing prosperity. But that tragedy has been compounded, and the conscience of the world engaged by the starvation threatening millions of innocent civilians on both sides of the battle.

Immediately after taking office, I directed an urgent and comprehensive review of the relief situation. The purpose was to examine every possibility to enlarge and expedite the flow of relief. This very complex problem will require continuing study. I am announcing, however, the following initial conclusions of the review:

1. The Red Cross and the Voluntary Agencies are now feeding nearly 1 million people in areas of the war zone controlled by the Federal Military Government of Nigeria. They fully expect the numbers will grow in magnitude over the coming months. This, therefore, will require additional support for the international relief effort from donor countries, and of course the continued cooperation of Federal authorities.

2. There is widely conflicting information on future food requirements within the Biafran-controlled area, where the relief operation is feeding an estimated two million persons. The United States Government therefore is urgently seeking a comprehensive, internationally conducted survey of food needs in that area.

3. Whatever the results of such a survey, it is already clear that the present relief effort is inadequate to the need in the Biafran-controlled area. The major obstacle to expanded relief is

pol 27-9 BIAFRAN - NIGERIA

0227

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Authority	VND 95/503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

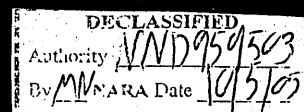
neither money, food, nor means of transport. The main problem is the absence of relief arrangements acceptable to the two sides which would overcome the limitations posed by the present hazardous and inadequate nighttime airlift.

4. The efforts of outside governments to expand relief are greatly complicated by the political and military issues that divide the contestants. Unfortunately, the humanitarian urge to feed the starving has become enmeshed in those issues and stands in danger of interpretation by the parties as a form of intervention. But surely it is within the conscience and ability of man to give effect to his humanitarianism without involving himself in the politics of the dispute.

5. It is in this spirit that U.S. policy will draw a sharp distinction between carrying out our moral obligations to respond effectively to humanitarian needs and involving ourselves in the political affairs of others. The U.S. will not shrink from this humanitarian challenge but, in cooperation with those of like mind, will seek to meet it.

With the above conclusions in view, I am pleased to announce that Secretary of State Rogers has today appointed Mr. Clarence Clyde Ferguson, Jr., a distinguished American civic leader and Professor of Law at Rutgers University, as Special Coordinator on relief to civilian victims of the Nigerian civil war. He will be charged with assuring that the U.S. contributions to the international relief effort are responsive to increased needs to the maximum extent possible and that they are effectively utilized. In so doing, he will give particular attention to ways and means by which the flow of relief can be increased to the suffering on both sides of the battle line. He will, of course, work closely with the ICRC and other international relief agencies, the Organization of African Unity, donor governments, and with the parties to the conflict.

0228



- 3 -

The Special Coordinator will not seek and will not accept a charge to negotiate issues other than those directly relevant to relief.

Nevertheless, the U.S. earnestly hopes for an early negotiated end to the conflict and a settlement that will assure the protection and peaceful development of all the peoples involved.

February 22, 1969

0229

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Authority	VND 954503
By	MN NARA Date 10/3/05

46



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington, D.C. 20520

5/5 2529

February 25, 1969

TO : The Acting Secretary
THROUGH: S/S *[initials]*
FROM : AF - Joseph Palmer 2nd *[signature]*
SUBJECT: Letter for the Acting Secretary's Signature
in Response to Senator Fulbright's Request -
ACTION MEMORANDUM

DISCUSSION:

Senator Fulbright suggested in his telephone conversation with you on February 22 that you send him a confirming letter about Mr. Ferguson's appointment as Special Coordinator for relief.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the attached letter to Senator Fulbright. *[signature]* 2/29

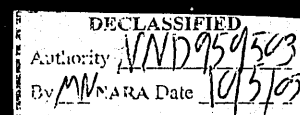
Clearance: H - Mr. *[signature]* Leahy

[signature]
AF/W:RPSmith:mfc 2/25/69

①
RECEIVED BY 15/3

60L 27-9 BIAFMA-NIGERIA

0230





DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

RS/R FILES

Attention *Mrs Mullett*
Keep this study together.

S/S-1979

III

February 27, 1969

Copies To:

AF
AF/W
RF

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: Letter to the President from
Miss Cherri Brantner about Activities
of the International Relief Fund at the
University of Minnesota

In response to Miss Hasek's memorandum of
February 14, there is enclosed a copy of Assistant
Secretary Palmer's telegram of February 19 to
Miss Brantner.

John P. Walsh
John P. Walsh

Acting Executive Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Copy of Response to Miss Brantner (STATE 26919)
2. Letter from Miss Brantner

Redrafted and retyped in S/S-S:GLKelly:2/26/69

REDARAFTED BY RS/R

MICROFILMED
BY S/S: CMS
77EM

Pol 27-4 Brantner - Nguyen

0231

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Authority VND 954503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DRAFTING OFFICE COPY

UNCLASSIFIED

Miss Cherri Brantner
263 Coffman Memorial Union
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

The President has asked me to reply to your informative letter of February 5 about the activities of the International Relief Fund at the University of Minnesota. On behalf of President Nixon, I commend the humanitarian efforts of your organization in aid of those afflicted on both sides of the Nigerian civil war. I wish you every success for the day you have set aside in dedication to the children who have become innocent victims of war. That your supporters in a nation of plenty are willing to deny themselves to help those without the necessities of life in a war-ravaged land, once again confirms the dedication of today's youth to the cause of international brotherhood.

Your government shares your profound sympathy for the suffering and is doing all within its power to maintain and increase the flow of relief supplies. Your interest and involvement supports and gives impetus to our efforts.

President Nixon regrets he is unable to be with you on February 21, but has asked me to send his personal wishes for continued success in your work.

AP/W:R:Waville:crb 2/19/69 7573

Joseph Valmar 2nd
Assistant Secretary of State
for African Affairs

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FORM
8-65 DS-322

0232

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Authority VMD 959503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

INTERNATIONAL RELIEF FUND
203 Coffman Memorial Union
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

February 5, 1969

1979

President Richard M. Nixon
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Nixon:

In view of our intense concern for the starving people in Biafra-Nigeria, we would like to let you know about our organization at the University of Minnesota. The International Relief Fund is a sub-committee of the International Student Council, a campus organization of foreign and American students. We began our work in early December when the Red Cross announced they could continue their flights only two more weeks without additional funds. Since that time our organization has raised \$4,400. All donations have been channelled through the International Red Cross. Our purpose is purely humanitarian -- we appeal to our community to choose the side of the children who are the innocent victims of this war.

We have set aside February 21 as a day dedicated to the children of Biafra-Nigeria who have already died; and to remind the community that many more will die if our efforts come too late. This day is our reaffirmation of the brotherhood of man, and of the belief that individuals can create a mighty current of hope. That day will be a day of fast for our organization and for all those high school students and college students who have supported our efforts. All money that would have been spent on food will be given to the fund.

We would very much like for you to attend the candle light march and rally at the University which will end the day. Since we know your busy schedule may not permit you to come, could you instead send us a letter we could read at the rally? This would do much to tie our efforts in with the national appeal.

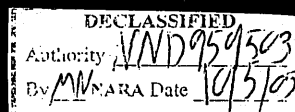
There are times when the situation in Biafra-Nigeria, and other parts of the world seems hopeless. But, together with you and other leaders like yourself, we can "reduce the number of tortured children."

Appreciatively,

Cherri Brantner

Cherri Brantner, Program Co-ordinator
International Relief Fund
203 Coffman Memorial Union
University of Minnesota

0233



Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

31

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Origin ACTION: Amembassy LONDON PRIORITY
Info: INFO: " LAGOS
" ADDIS ABABA
US Mission GENEVA
USUN

LIMDIS

REF: Lagos 1750

1. We continue believe Obilago proposal, despite admitted problems and difficulties, is promising. FMG is now publicly committed to it as result Arikpo announcement in Addis. While Biafrans have not accepted it they have not rejected it and there is an imminent likelihood of pressures being brought to bear on Ojukwu through Congressman Lowenstein and several others to press its for ~~the~~ acceptance.
2. At this stage we would be concerned if FMG were to take steps which might invite Biafran rejection of ~~Obilago~~ Obilago. UK proposal that Lindt start stockpiling supplies at Obilago could in our view well lead to such a response. While we agree re desirability of drawing ~~public attention to Biafran rejection at an appropriate time, this has not repeat not yet occurred and~~ ~~meanwhile~~ ~~our principal concern is to achieve acceptance by both parties. Hence our desire to avoid any actions which might prejudice what chances there are for obtaining that acceptance.~~
3. Embassy London should inform FONOFF of our view as set forth above and express our hope that it will be willing to instruct UKHC Lagos to request Lindt not repeat not move ahead with any stockpiling actions for time being.

Drafted by: AF:CRM Moore:ehd *WMA* 26/69

Tel. Ext. 5208

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

AF - C. Robert Moore *CR*

Clearances:

AF/W - Mr. Melbourne *rm*

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FORM DS-322
8-65

0234

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Authority *VND 959503*
By *MV* NARA Date *10/5/05*

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION:

Info:

FYI - we frankly doubt that Lindt on reflection would be prepared to begin stockpiling at Obilago without some understanding from Biafrans that ICRC planes would not be shot at. End FYI.

Acting

Richardson

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

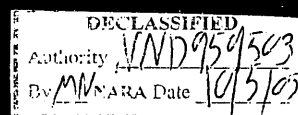
Clearances:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0235



75

POL 27-9 BIAFRA NIGERIA

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Classification

39 A
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Origin ACTION: USMission GENEVA

Info: INFO: Amembassy LAGOS

STATE

SUBJECT: Nigerian Relief: Senator Goodell Report

REF: Geneva 527

Despite Goodell team report, Presidential statement February 22 announcing appointment new Relief Coordinator Ferguson said QUOTE there is widely conflicting information on future food requirements within Biafran-controlled area, where relief operation is feeding estimated two million persons. USG is urgently seeking comprehensive internationally conducted survey of food needs in that area UNQUOTE. Department/AID continuing study of Goodell team's 36-page report, copies of which being pouched Geneva and Lagos.

RICHARDSON

END

Drafted by: AF/W: BWach:emb 2/25/69
Clearances: AID/AFW: Kellerman
Tel. Ext. 2946
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Roy M. Melbourne
Nigeria Task Force

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Classification

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0236

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Authority VND 954503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

21

POL 27-9 Biafra -

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

28 Dec 69 22 02 Z
FOR OC/IT USE ONLY
Nigeria

Origin ACTION: Amembassy BONN

Info: STATE
TOSEC 83

Subj: Nigeria

Clarence Clyde Ferguson sworn in this morning as Special Coordinator for Nigeria Relief by Acting Secretary. Ferguson now in Department being briefed by State and AID. Press release on appointment pointed out his role strictly humanitarian in scope and states he will not seek or accept a charge to negotiate issues other than those directly relevant to relief.

30243

2

Drafted by: AF/W:R. Wachiba 2/26/69

Clearances:

S&S-S-Mr. Brandt

Tel. Ext. 2946

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Roy M. Melbourne
Nigeria Task Force

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0237

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Authority: VMD 954503
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

75



POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 265

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00559 261103Z

17
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, AID 28, OB 01, TRSY 11, RSR 01, RSC 01, /073 W
----- 065324

R 261032Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 430
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

UNCLAS GENEVA 559

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC BUDGET

REF: GENEVA 518, PARA 3.

ICRC'S SLIGHTLY REVISED PRESENTATION ITS NIGERIA/BIAFRA BUDGET
FOUCHED DEPARTMENT AND LAGOS FEBRUARY 25.
TUBBY

GENEVA-559
2-2669

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0238

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Authority VND 959503
By MVA Date 10/5/05



POL 32-1 DAHOMEY-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
RE POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL 300

PAGE 01 COTONO 00221 261123Z

21
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, RSR 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, SCS 04,
SCA 01, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, E 15, /165 W

065436

260910Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1903
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY ARIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL COTONOU 221

REF: COTONOU 215 - POL 32-1 DAHOMEY-NIGERIA

1. ACTING FONMIN D'ALMEIDA TOLD ME FEB 25 THAT FOR ALL
PRACTICAL PURPOSES NIGERIANS HAD CLOSED FRONTIER. NIGERIANS

HAD PERMITTED 12 DAHOMEAN REGISTERED VEHICLES TO CROSS INTO
NIGERIA ON FEB 21 AND REDUCED THIS TO 4 ON FEB 24. VEHICLES
WITH GHANAIAN AND TOGOLESE REGISTRATION PERMITTED TO PASS
WITHOUT RESTRICTION.

2. D'ALMEIDA SAID NIGERIAN ACTION WAS RETALIATION FOR ICRC
AIRLIFT FROM COTONOU. HE HAD CALLED IN NIGERIAN CHARGE TO
PROTEST BORDER CLOSING, STRESSING TO CHARGE THAT GRD
ACCEPTANCE OF AIRLIFT MOTIVATED PURELY BY HUMANITARIAN CON-
CERNS AND THAT EVERY PRECAUTION WOULD BE TAKEN TO BE SURE
THAT OPERATION RESTRICTED TO FOOD, MEDICINES AND REMOVAL OF
SOME BADLY WOUNDED SOLDIERS. CHARGE'S RESPONSE, ACCORDING
D'ALMEIDA, WAS "WHAT DID YOU EXPECT US TO DO."

3. D'ALMEIDA SAID CLOSING OF FRONTIER WOULD BE HARD BLOW
TO DAHOMEAN ECONOMY AND COULD CAUSE SOME INTERNAL DIFFI-

(2) CONFIDENTIAL

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By: MN NARA Date: 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XR POL 32-1 DAHOMEY-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL 326

PAGE 01 COTONO 00223 261155Z

19
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03,

SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, EUR 15, /150 W

065587

R 261008Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1904
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 223

SUBJECT: ICRC OPERATIONS COTONOU

1. AMB LINDT CALLED ON ME YESTERDAY FEB 25 TO BRING ME UP TO DATE ON ICRC PLANS FOR EXPANDING OPERATIONS FROM COTONOU. BROUGHT UP FIRST OF ALL FMG ACTION IN CLOSING NIGERIAN-DAHOMEAN BORDER. SAID HE HAD QUESTIONED DEPUTY EXTAFF ENAHORO ON DEVELOPMENT. LATTER AT FIRST DENIED VEHEMENTLY THAT BORDER CLOSED BUT CALLED OFFICIAL IN CUSTOMS WHO CONFIRMED THAT FRONTIER INDEED CLOSED TO DAHOMEAN VEHICLES. LINDT CONCLUDED ALL MEMBERS FMG NOT CLUED IN ON DECISIONS ALTHOUGH HE HAD NO RPT NO IDEA WHERE THIS DECISION TAKEN. OPINED THAT FMG IN TAKING SUCH ACTION ONLY WORSENING WORLD IMAGE. SUGGESTED FRIENDLY CURRENTS LIKE US MIGHT EXERT PRESSURE ON FMG TO OBTAIN LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS.

2. AS REGARDS COTONOU OPERATIONS SECOND STAGE OF EXPANSION AIRPORT PARKING OPERATIONS ALREADY AGREED. HAD SUCCEEDED IN REDUCING TOTAL COST TO 150,000 DOLLARS. EXPECTED JOB TO BE FINISHED BY MARCH 10 AT WHICH TIME TWO C-97'S WOULD BE ADDED TO FLEET OPERATING OUT OF COTONOU. ONE C-97 WITH AMERICAN CREW HAD ALREADY COME INTO COTONOU BRINGING RELIEF SUPPLIES FROM SWEDEN.

3. LINDT LEFT FOR LAGOS FEB 26 WHERE HE HOPES TO HAVE

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27

0240

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By	MN NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 COTONO 00223 261155Z

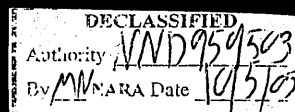
OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO AMB MATHEWS.

4. COMMENT: DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE AS STATED LAGOS 1729
FRONTIER RESTRICTIONS DUE SOLELY TO CONTROL SMUGGLING.
INFORMED NIGERIAN CHARGE LAST NIGHT MY PERSONAL CAR WOULD
BE CROSSING FRONTIER SUNDAY TO TAKE MCKESSON TO LAGOS. HE
INFORMED ME HE WOULD GIVE ME PERSONAL NOTE TO PERMIT MY
CAR TO PASS. SURELY NIGERIAN AUTHORITIES DO NOT THINK
OFFICIAL DIPLOMATIC CARS ARE ENGAGED IN CONTRABAND TRAFFIC.

GP-4. KNOX

CONFIDENTIAL
27

0241



Approved by:

AF - Mr. Palmer

U - Mr. Ruser

H - Mr. Leahy

February, 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

2

3248

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: February 25, 1969
Under Secretary's Office
Time: 4:00 P.M.

SUBJECT: Observations of Congressmen Diggs and
Burke on Visit to Nigeria and Biafra

PARTICIPANTS: Acting Secretary Richardson
Mr. Joseph Palmer 2nd - Assistant Secretary, AF
Mr. Roy M. Melbourne - Country Director, AF/W
Mr. John S. Leahy - Congressional Travel, H
Mr. Claus W. Ruser - Deputy Staff Director, USC

Congressman Charles C. Diggs, Jr. (D-Michigan)
Congressman J. Herbert Burke (R-Florida)
Mr. Melvin O. Benson, Staff Consultant

COPIES TO: S S/S AF-4 Amembassy LAGOS
U D IO U/CF
J INR/OD H Amembassy MONROVIA
C S/P AID-2 Amembassy ADDIS ABABA

Mr. Diggs said that the trip to Nigeria and Biafra had been useful in helping him and Mr. Burke assess the situation. Military considerations still were the stumbling block to any efforts to provide effective relief.

Mr. Diggs believed both Ojukwu and Gowon, because of pressures operating on each side, wished some kind of negotiated political settlement. He had not gone beyond encouraging them toward this. Ojukwu was more specific than Gowon. Ojukwu thought the U.S., uninvolved and with a new Administration, was in a unique position to get the parties together. He had suggested that the U.S. seek to have a third party encourage both sides to a peace settlement, not simply a truce. Ojukwu's nomination for the third party was the Emperor of Ethiopia and President Tubman of Liberia, acting jointly but as individuals and without any OAU connotation. Gowon talked only generally to the effect that the OAU might contribute to a settlement. Mr. Diggs believed Gowon and his regime could be in serious trouble, even threatened by a coup, if the war were not settled within the next six months.

W. R. Melbourne:emb
(Drafting Office and Officer)

FORM DS-1254
2-65

CONFIDENTIAL

MICROFILMED
BY S/S: CM

LEG 7 DIGGS

NR POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

NR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

0242

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Authority VND 959503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

66



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

*Page 1411
9-25-69*

CONFIDENTIAL 865

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01711 251629Z

52
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, UPW 01, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, ACDA 16, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 20, USIA 12, E 15, DOT 12, TRSY 11, AID 28, RSR 01, /204 W
----- 059649

R 251113Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5165
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1002
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1711

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF - "LUNS PLAN" *re: Biafra relief*

REF: THE HAGUE 693; STATE 028892

1. LAUDABLE AS ARE LUNS' EFFORTS DEVELOP NEW RELIEF ACCESS
ROUTE, EMBASSY STRONGLY BELIEVES NO REPEAT NO ALTERNATIVE
ROUTES SHOULD BE SURFACED PUBLICLY AT THIS STAGE. LOWENSTEIN'S
PLAN FOR DAYLIGHT RELIEF FLIGHTS TO OBILAGO AND THEN UNDER
ICRC SUPERVISION TO REBEL AREAS VIA LAND ROUTE STILL OFFERS
SOME HOPE FOR SOLUTION. FMG HAVE ACCEPTED AND OJUKWU APPARENTLY
HAS NOT REPEAT NOT REJECTED PROPOSAL. WE FEAR THAT PUBLIC
DISCUSSION OF ALTERNATIVE WILL SIMPLY MUDDY WATERS AT THIS STAGE.

①

CONFIDENTIAL
3/

0243

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 959503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 01711 251629Z

2. EMBASSY AGREES COMPLETELY DEPARTMENT'S POINT THAT WATER ROUTE HAVING OGUTA AS TERMINUS WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO FMG SINCE OGUTA NEAR ULI AIRPORT WHICH PRIME FMG MILITARY TARGET. DEWEY AND FLAHERTY EXPECTED RETURN FROM ENUGU TOMORROW OR FOLLOWING DAY. MEANWHILE, EMBASSY OFFERS FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY WATER ROUTES:

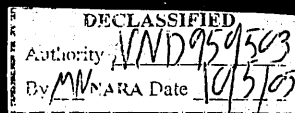
3. EXPERIENCED DUTCH ENGINEERING FIRM CONSULTED BY DUTCH MFA IS PRESUMABLY NETHERLANDS ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS (NEDECO) WHICH PRODUCED DEFINITIVE WATER STUDIES OF NIGER-BENUE RIVER SYSTEM AND NIGER DELTA FOR NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT. NEDECO'S NIGER DELTA INVESTIGATION (PUBLISHED THE HAGUE 1961) DESCRIBES ORASHI RIVER ROUTE (OKARKI-OGUTA) AS UNSUITABLE FOR WATERWAYS DEVELOPMENT AS RESULT SILTING AND INSUFFICIENT WATER (PAGES 100-111, 290). THESE LIMITATIONS HAVE CONFINED TRAFFIC ON ORASHI TO RAFTS, CONSISTING OF CASKS OF PALM OIL LASHED TOGETHER WHICH CAN FLOAT OR ROLL ACCORDING TO AVAILABLE WATER DEPTH. ACCORDING TO REPORT, "MAIN PROBLEMS OF NAVIGATION ARE ENCOUNTERED DOWNSTREAM OF KREIGANI, ON THE SECTION JOINKRAMA-OKARKI A DOZEN SHALLOW PLACES OCCUR."

4. GENERAL MANAGER, NIGER RIVER TRANSPORT (UNILEVER), EXPERIENCED BARGE OPERATOR, HAS SIMILARLY TOLD US THAT ORASHI RIVER UNUSEABLE EXCEPT IN SHORT HIGH WATER SEASON (SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER) AND THEN ONLY FOR VERY SMALL BARGE EQUIPMENT. HE SAID FIVE FOOT DRAFT 100 TON BARGE EQUIPMENT COMMONLY USED IN NIGERIA UNWORKABLE ON ORASHI RIVER. WE ALSO NOTE THAT DEGEMA LIMITED TO VESSELS NOT EXCEEDING 16 FOOT DRAFT WITH AVERAGE LOAD OF 1000 TONS.

GP-3 MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

0244



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

020073

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Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE
Info INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
" " LONDON " US Mission GENEVA PRIORITY
" " PARIS " USUN "

Ref: Lagos 1682

Subj: Nigerian Press Treatment of Presidential Statement

Department assumes Nigerian press coverage of QTE President's message UNQTE described para 3 reftel refers to Presidential statement issued February 22, text of which contained State 028297. Please clarify.

Richardson

84062

Drafted by: AF/AFW:RPSmith:ba 2/25/69
Tel. Ext. 6402
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Roy M. Melbourne
Clearances: Nigeria Task Force

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Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0245

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Authority: VND 9503
By: MVA Date: 10/5/03

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POLIS-1 US/NIXON
TRPOL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 01712 251940Z

52 S.
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03, UPW 01

SCA 01, SCS 04, AID 28, RSR 01, 150 W

060808

R 251130Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5166
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 1712

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: A) LAGOS 1682; B) STATE 028284

1. REFTEL A) NOTED FAVORABLE NIGERIAN PRESS PLAY OF PRESIDENTIAL
QTE MESSAGE UNQTE TO GOWON ON US ATTITUDE TOWARD RELIEF.
ACTUALLY PRESS PLAY QUOTED PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT NAMING SPECIAL
RELIEF COORDINATOR (STATE 028297), WHILE SEPARATE MESSAGE TO
GOWON WAS CONTAINED IN REF B).

2. EMBASSY SUBMITTING THIS CLARIFICATION SINCE CLASSIFIED MESSAGE
TO GOWON HAS NOT RPT NOT BEEN PUBLICIZED, THOUGH LOCAL PRESS
CALLING PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT A QTE MESSAGE UNQTE.

EXEMPT MATHEWS

(2)

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TELEGRAM

POK27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL 091

PAGE 01 OSLO 00799 251841Z

51
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, UPW 01, RSR 01,
/085 W

060459

R 251530Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2341
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
US MISSION USUN 114
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
US MISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL OSLO 799

SUBJ: QTE LUNS PLAN UNQTE FOR NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: THE HAGUE'S 693

1. PRIOR RECEIPT REFTTEL, ERIKSEN (OIC AFRICAN, ASIAN, LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS, FONOFF) READ EMBOFF REPORT OF FEB 21 MEETING FROM NORWEGIAN AMB TO THE HAGUE WHICH CLOSELY PARALLELED REFTTEL.

2. FONOFF NOT OPTIMISTIC RE PROSPECTS BIAFRAN ACCEPTANCE; DUTCH PROPOSAL. ERIKSEN OBSERVED PLIGHT OF 180 PEOPLE IS POTENT PROPAGANDA WEAPON WHICH OJUKWU MAY NOT WISH BLUNT AT PRESENT STAGE. NEVERTHELESS, HUMANITARIAN MOTIVES AND PRESSURE DOMESTIC PUBLIC OPINION REQUIRE THAT GON PARTICIPATE.

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0247

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PAGE 02 OSLO 00799 251841Z

3. GON EXPECTED SEND EITHER ERIKSEN OR ARNESEN (OIC UN AFFAIRS) TO FEB 28 MEETING, ALTHOUGH LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION STILL TO BE COORDINATED WITH NORDIC NEIGHBORS.

4. LOCAL PUBLIC OPINION BECOMING MORE IMPORTANT FACTOR AS RESULT SENSATIONALIST, PRO-BIAFRA TV SPECIAL. YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF CHRISTIAN PEOPLES PARTY, WHICH MEMBER GOVERNMENT COALITION, CALLED FOR DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF BIAFRA. ALTHOUGH THIS NOT SERIOUS POSSIBILITY, CPP YOUTH ACTION INDICATIVE OF PRESSURE ON GON IN ELECTION YEAR. GP-3. TIBBETTS

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102 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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CONFIDENTIAL 840

PAGE 01 THE HA 00732 260455Z

11
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, UPW 01, SCA 01, SCS 04, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 150 W

063513

R 251450Z FEB 69
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3549
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

CONFIDENTIAL THE HAGUE 732

SUBJ: NIGERIA RELIEF: "LUNS PLAN"

REF: STATE 028892

1. MFA'S HUYDECOPER TOLD EMBOFF FEB 25 THAT REACTIONS THUS FAR FROM CAPITALS TO "LUNS PLAN" HAVE BEEN FAVORABLE. BELGIANS PLAN SEND EXPERT TO NEXT MEETING AND NORWEGIANS MAY AS WELL. CANADIANS AND SWEDS BOTH RESPONDED FAVORABLY BUT DOUBT ABILITY SEND EXPERTS. HUYDECOPER INCLINED GO AHEAD WITH FEB 28 MEETING EVEN IF ONLY SPRINKLING OF EXPERTS AVAILABLE IN ORDER GIVE ALL POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS IN PLAN OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR VIEWS OF ICRC ACTING PRESIDENT PROF. FREYMOND.

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PAGE 02 THE HA 00732 260455Z

2. HUYDECOPER RECOGNIZED THAT OGUTA IS IN MILITARY TARGET AREA AND COMMENTED THAT PRESSURE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO BE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON LAGOS TO RELINQUISH MILITARY APPROACH TO ULI FROM WEST. HE DID NOT THINK LAGOS' AGREEMENT IMPOSSIBLE SINCE AREA TO WEST IS LARGELY UNSUITABLE MILITARY TERRAIN CONSISTING OF MUD FLATS.

3. HUYDECOPER EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN TRAVEL PLANS OF FERGUSON, IMPLICATION BEING HE HOPES THAT FERGUSON'S EFFORTS WILL NOT COMPROMISE CHANCES OF DUTCH EFFORTS, E.G., BY BROACHING SUBJECT OF WATER CORRIDOR BEFORE JOING APPROACH ENVISAGED IN LUNS PLAN CAN BE PREPARED.

4. REFERRING TO UNCERTAINTY THAT ORASHI RIVER LEVEL WILL BE HIGH ENOUGH PRE-JUNE FOR STANDARD RIVER CRAFT, JUYDECOPER ASKED IF WE COULD PROVIDE SOON BENEFIT OF U.S. (E.G. IN VIETNAM) WITH SHALLOW WATER CRAFT THAT MIGHT BE OBTAINABLE ON RELATIVELY SHORT NOTICE.
GP-3. TYLER

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Date	10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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CONFIDENTIAL 546

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01701 251232Z

21
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, RSR 01, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, /150 W

058105

R 250920Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5161
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1701

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF - CONVERSATION WITH LINDT

REF: LAGOS 1539

1. SALINDT CALLED ON AMBASSADOR FEBRUARY 24. IN COURSE GENERAL REVIEW SITUATION, AMBASSADOR MENTIONED CONVERSATION WITH RODHAIN, PRES. CARITAS (REFTEL) RE UCA-ICRC COORDINATING ON DAYLIGHT RELIEF FLIGHTS. LINDT MUCH ENCOURAGED BY RODHAIN'S ATTITUDE AND FOLLOWING AMBASSADOR'S RECOMMENDATION, HOPES DISCUSS MATTER WITH RODHAIN IN LAGOS. LINDT RECALLED HE AND FREYMOND (ACTING PRES. ICRC) HAD MET WITH CHENARD (CRS) AND MOLLERUP (NORDCHURCHAD) LAST FRIDAY IN GENEVA. LINDT HAD FOUND CHENARD FAVORABLY INCLINED TOWARD DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS BUT MOLLERUP HAD ARGUED AGAINST ON GROUNDS RISK NIGHT FLIGHTS NOT REPEAT NOT INCREASED MUCH AS HE BELIEVED FMG REALLY NOT REPEAT NOT AFTER RELIEF PLANES BUT IN FACT TRYING TO AVOID THEM, A POINT REPORTED GENEVA'S 471.

2. LINDT AGREED NECESSARY GET SOLID OBJECTIVE ICRC TEAM INTO REBEL AREAS TO ASSESS FOOD REQUIREMENTS. HE INTERESTED IN GOODELL REPORT OF ENORMOUS FOOD REQUIREMENTS AND COMMENTED THAT "BIAFRANS" HAD NOT REPEAT NOT MADE MUCH POINT SUCH REQUIREMENTS TO HIM RECENTLY.

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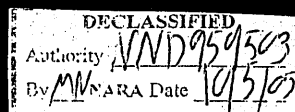
PAGE 02 LAGOS 01701 251232Z

3. RE EVACUATION WOUNDED "BIAFRA" SOLDIERS TO EUROPE, LINDT NOTED HAD MADE SIMILAR OFFER INFORMALLY TO FMG EARLIER, WHICH WELL RECEIVED AND REGRETTER HE HAD NOT FORMALIZED THIS OFFER. HE STATED 51 BADLY WOUNDED "BIAFRANS" YET TO BE EVACUATED. PROBLEM WOULD BE FIND NECESSARY SPECIALIZED FACILITIES TO ACCOMMODATE THEM.

4. LINDT PLANS VISIT ENUGU 26 FEBRUARY TO LOOK INTO FOOD CONDITIONS. TRIP TO EG POSTPONED IN ABSENCE AUTHORITIES WITH WHOM HE WISHED DISCUSS EXTENSION ICRC AIRLIFT. HE REASONABLY CONFIDENT EXTENSION CAN BE ACHIEVED, REMARKING GEG "ANNOYED" BECAUSE ICRC DOES NOT REPEAT NOT MAKE MORE FLIGHTS WHICH NOW MEANS ADDITIONAL LANDING FEES.
GP-3 MATHEWS

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 01726 251853Z

44
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, SCSE 00, SCA 01, UPW 01, AID 28,

SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, 134 W

060516

R 251505Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5177
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NY
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS LAGOS 1726

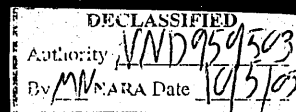
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN PRESS ROUNDUP FEBRUARY 25

1. NIXON RELIEF STATEMENT. ONLY
LAGOS DAILY TIMES COMMENTED
FURTHER ON STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT THAT SPECIAL COORDINATOR
FERGUSON BEING APPOINTED AND THAT USG WISHED MEET VALID
HUMANITARIAN NEEDS BUT NOT RPT NOT INTERESTED BECOMING
INVOLVED POLITICALLY IN NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR. TIMES EDITORIAL
CALLED NIXON STATEMENT QTE REASSURING, FOR IT RECOGNIZES FACT
IT DIFFICULT TALK OF HUMANITARIAN ASPECT OF CIVIL WAR
IN TOTAL DISREGARD OF POLITICAL AND MILITARY ISSUES INVOLVED
IN IT UNQTE. EDITORIAL NOTES HUMANITARIAN URGES HAVE QTE
RECOME ENMESHED UNQTE WITH THOSE ISSUES, AND IF MISINTERPRETED
BY OUTSIDE POWERS COULD CONSTITUTE INTERFERENCE NIGERIAN
INTERNAL AFFAIRS. CONTINUING, TIMES SAYS, QTE GOOD THING

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 01726 251859Z

THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS DECLARED IN HIS NOTE (SIC) TO GENERAL GOWON THAT THE US WILL DRAW A SHARP DISTINCTION BETWEEN RESPONDING EFFECTIVELY TO HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND INVOLVING THE US IN THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS OF OTHERS. THE LEAST NIGERIA EXPECTS THE US TO DO IS TO MAINTAIN STRICT NEUTRALITY IN MILITARY ASPECT OF CIVIL WAR. THERE CAN BE NO OBJECTION TO ANY EFFORTS TO GIVE RELIEF TO CIVILIAN WAR VICTIMS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CONFLICT... WE HOPE THAT TIME WILL BEAR OUT STRICT NEUTRALITY OF THE US IN NIGERIAN CONFLICT, AND THAT NOTHING WILL BE DONE AT THIS CRUCIAL PERIOD OF OUR HISTORY TO MAR TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN NIGERIA AND UNITED STATES UNQTE.

2. VISITING DUTCH PARLIAMENTARIANS. LEADING LAGOS DAILIES (POST, TIMES, PILOT) ALL HEADLINED STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED LEADER TWO-MAN DUTCH QTE FACT-FINDING TEAM UNQTE, P.A.M. CORNELISEN, THAT QTE NO EVIDENCE OF GENOCIDE UNQTE AS REBELS ALLEGE. CORNELISEN REPORTEDLY SAID HE SAW GOOD WORK DONE BY RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS AND PLEDGED SUPPORT FOR MORE RELIEF OPERATIONS. HE ALSO SAID TO HAVE PRAISED FMG OFFER OBILAGU AIRSTRIP FOR DAYTIME RELIEF FLIGHTS.

3. OJUKWU NON-RESPONSE TO FMG OFFER. BOTH YESTERDAY AND TODAY NIGERIAN PAPERS AND RADIO MAKING POINT REBEL NON-RESPONSE TO FMG OFFER MAKE OBILAGU AIRSTRIP AVAILABLE FOR RELIEF FLIGHTS CONSTITUTES QTE REJECTION UNQTE. TIMES FEBR 25 QUOTES EXTAFF COMMISSIONER ARIKPO IN ADDIS AS SAYING QTE WE HAVE WAITED FOR THREE WEEKS WITHOUT A RESPONSE; WE REGARD THIS AS A REJECTION UNQTE.

MATHEWS

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 01750 251850Z

52
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, UPW 01, SCA 01, SCS 04, AID 28, E 15, SR 01, ORM 03,
CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, SSO 00, NSCE 00, RSR 01, 153 W
060507

P R 25620Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5192
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 1750

NOFORN

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF - OBILAGO PROPOSAL

1. WILLAN, UKHC, GAVE DCM LONDON MESSAGE WELCOMING ARIKPO'S
ACCEPTANCE OBILAGO FOR DAYLIGHT LANDING RELIEF SUPPLIES
WHICH THEN BE TAKEN BY ROAD TO REBEL-HELD AREA. MESSAGE
NOTED FMG PREPARED GO AHEAD ONLY WHEN PROPOSAL ACCEPTED
BY REBELS AND EXPRESSED FEAR PROSPECTS REBEL ACCEPTANCE
NOT REPEAT NOT GOOD. NWOKEDI HAD TOLD TEBBIT YESTERDAY
HE SURE "BIAFRA" NOT REPEAT NOT AGREE ROAD ROUTE FROM
OBILAGO AS LONG AS OBILAGO IN FMG HANDS, BUT WOULD ALLOW
ITS USE IF, AS REPORTED LONDON PRESS, REBELS RECAPTURED IT.

2. LONDON SUGGESTED IT IN FMG INTEREST FOLLOW UP ARIKPO
OFFER BY MAKING ARRANGEMENTS WITH LINDT TO START STOCKPILING
RELIEF SUPPLIES AT OBILAGO, THUS, PRE-EMPTING "BIAFRANS"
POSSIBLE REFUSAL OBILAGO OFFER AND PLANS FMG IN FAVORABLE
LIGHT WORLD OPINION IF FMG SUCCEEDED INTERRUPTING NIGHT
TRAFFIC INTO ULI.

3. ACCORDINGLY, UK HICOMER SAW PERMSEC EXTAFF, BABA GANA,

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 01750 251850Z

WHO THOUGHT STOCKPILING IDEA HAD POSSIBILITIES AND SAID IF LINDT APPROACHED FMG ON MATTER, FMG GIVE SUGGESTION FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION.

HICOMER, HAVING PAVED GROUND, THEN SAW LINDT WHES ALSO THOUGHT IDEA GOOD ONE AND SAID HEI WOULD HAVE ICRC LAGOS CHIEF, EGLI, CONTACT BABA GANA ON SUBJECT. LINDT LEFT FOR COTONOU THIS AFTERNOON, BUT EXPECTED BACK IN DAY OR SO. DOUBT HE SAW EGLI BEFORE DEPARTURE.

4. BABA GANA DESCRIBED REPORT OBILAGO IN REBEL HANDS AS "RUBBISH".

GP-3
MATHEWS

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By	MMARA
Date	10/5/05



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PAGE 01 LAGOS 01751 252046Z

85
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, UPW 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, ORM 03,
SR 01, SCS 04, SCA 01, E 15, ACDA 16, RSR 01, 181 W
----- 061173

R 251722Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5193
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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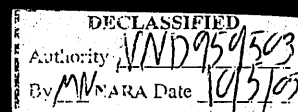
SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF - CANADIAN RESPONSE JCA REPRESENTATION

1. CDN HIGH COMM HAS GIVEN US COPY CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN
MR. JOHNSON, VICE CHAIRMAN CANADIAN RELIEF AND SSEA. JOHNSON
LETTER CALLS ATTENTION TO DAMAGE INFLICTED JCA PLANES ON NIGHT
FEB 9/10 AND POINTS OUT BOMBING HARASSMENT AT ULI HAS REDUCED
NUMBER JCA LANDINGS. JOHNSON STATED JCA MEMBER AGENCIES
DRAWING ATTENTION TO HAZARDS, PRESSING FOR INTENSIFICATION OF
EFFORTS OBTAIN CEASEFIRE AND EXPRESSING HOPE CDN GOVT PROTEST
DAILY BOMBING RELIEF PLANES.

2. SSEA REPLY POINTED OUT FACT THAT FLIGHTS CARRIED OUT
DESPITE KNOWN RISKS RESULTING FROM ABSENCE AGREED ARRANGEMENTS
REINFORCES NEED HAVE SECESSIONIST AUTHORITIES AGREE DAYLIGHT
FLIGHTS. SSEA POINTED OUT HE HAD HAD NO REPLY TO REQUEST TO
CHENARD (CRS) TO CONSIDER TRYING TO INFLUENCE OJUKWU ALLOW
ICRC DAYLIGHT RELIEF FLIGHTS INTO ULI AND THAT CEASE FIRE
BE TIME CONSUMING NEGOTIATION WHILE "INCREASE IN RELIEF
DELIVERIES COULD BEGIN IMMEDIATELY SHOULD COL. OJUKWU AGREE
ICRC DAYLIGHT ELIE FLIGHTS INTO ULI". SSEA CONCLUDED BY
SAYING "SINCE JOINT CHURCH AID'S CURRENT NIGHT FLIGHTS

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 01751 252046Z

CARRIED OUT AT OWN RISK IN FULL KNOWLEDGE DANGERS INVOLVED,
I REGRET THERE ARE NO REPEAT NO GROUNDS FOR FORMAL CDN GOVT
PROTEST TO FMG."

EXEMPT

MATHEWS

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 01754 251851Z

53
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CCO 00, SS 20, NSC 10, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28,

RSR 01 / 133 W

060535

O P 251810Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5195
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 1754

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: STATE 29078 AND LAGOS 1712

LAGOS 1712 SENT EARLIER TODAY ANTICIPATED AND ANSWERS
QUESTION. PRESS PLAY QUOTED PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT NAMING RELIEF
COORDINATOR. CLASSIFIED MESSAGE TO GOWON NOT REPEAT NOT
PUBLICIZED.

MATHEWS

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NIGERIA
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CONFIDENTIAL 209

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00191 261030Z

21
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20

USIA 12, UPW 01, RSR 01, /150 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2369
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 191

REF LIBREVILLE 134 AND 158 - POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SUBJ BIAFRAN CHILDRENS RELIEF

1. ALTHOUGH HE HAS MODIFIED VIEWS SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN PAST, DR FRANK CATCHPOOL REPRESENTING SCHWEITZER FELLOWSHIP HAS ABOUT COME TO THE FINAL CONCLUSION ALL HE ABLE TO DO HERE IS CONSTRUCT TWO BUILDINGS AT FRENCH MILITARY HOSPITAL, HIS ATTACHMENT TO GERMAN CARITAS-PROTESTANT CHURCH CENTER HAVING NOW BEEN RULED OUT BY CENTER'S MANAGEMENT. GERMANS HAVE ENCOUNTERED CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY WITH FRENCH HERE AND THEY HAVE TOLD CATCHPOOL, IN VIEW SUSPICION IN WHICH AMERICANS HELD GABON, CENTER'S DIFFICULTIES MIGHT BE INCREASED IF AMERICAN ADDED TO STAFF. THEY FEARFUL THAT, WHEN THEY HAVE MADE PLANNED MILLION AND HALF DOLLAR INVESTMENT FOR ACCOMMODATION ONE THOUSAND CHILDREN IN WHAT IS BY ALL ACCOUNTS IMPRESSIVE CENTER, FRENCH MAY TURN OFF ALREADY SLOW FLOW OF CHILDREN TO CENTER.

2. CATCHPOOL TENTATIVELY EXPECTS CONSTRUCTION AT FRENCH MILITARY HOSPITAL TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK BUT, NOTING THAT DECISION GO AHEAD COULD STILL BE REVERSED, HOPES DISCUSS IT

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PAGE 02 LIBREV 00191 261030Z

WITH RHENA ECKERT-SCHWEITZER BEFOREHAND WHEN SHE ARRIVES
HERE MARCH 1.

3. IN MEANTIME CATCHPOOL HAS URGED BIAFRAN REP HENRY OGWU
TO SECURE PERMISSION FOR HIM GO BIAFRA WHERE HE HOPES CONTACT
DOCTORS FERGUS POPE AND FAREED WHO APPARENTLY ALREADY ENGAGED
IN MOBILE MEDICAL UNIT PROJECT BACKED BY NORMAN COUSINS.

4. PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED BY CATCHPOOL AND BY GERMAN CARITAS.
PROTESTANT CHURCH RELIEF CENTER NOT PARTICULARLY SURPRISING IN
LIGHT HISTORY OF FRENCH RESISTANCE TO NON FRENCH ENTERPRISES
IN ANY FIELD WHICH MAY BECOME IMPORTANT AND MAKE SUBSTANTIAL
IMPRESSION. GP 3 BANE

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-LIGERIA
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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00554 251707Z

42
ACTION AID 28

INFO ID 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, E 15, AF 12, IGA 02, OB 01

SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, BOB 01, TRSY 11, AGR 20, EUR 15, RSR 01

/194 W

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P R 251615Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 425
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 554

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC BUDGET

REF: STATE 27957

1. MISSION YESTERDAY DISCUSSED AID COMMENTS ON FINANCIAL PLAN WITH ICRC (MAINLY BASSET AND AMMANN).

2. RETEL PARA 2A. ICRC USED 18 KILOS PER PERSON PER MONTH (PLAN PARA 3.2) TIMES NUMBERS TO BE REACHED AS GIVING TONNAGES TO BE MOVED AND CONSEQUENT TRANSPORTATION NEEDS. INCREASE FROM PRESENT 3,000 TONS MOVED IN NIGERIA TO 10,000 WOULD REQUIRE ONLY APPROXIMATE DOUBLING OF TRUCKS (PARAS 2.2.1 AND 5.3.1). BETTER UTILIZATION WOULD MAKE DIFFERENCE. SIMILAR ROUGH CALCULATIONS ON BASIS ICRC EXPERIENCE USED IN OTHER PROTECTIONS BUDGET.

3. RETEL PARA 2B. COST OF AIRLIFT INTO BIAFRA IS INCLUDED AND ALSO OPERATION C-97G'S. ON COSTS OF COTONOU AIRPORT EXPANSION, \$50,000 FOR FIRST PHASE COVERED FROM SURPLUS IN PREVIOUS BUDGET. ADDITIONAL NOT COVERED IN PRESENT BUDGET; LINDT NEVER SUGGESTED TO ICRC BUDGET PEOPLE IT BE COVERED, AND ACCORDING TO LINDT STAFF IN GENEVA FINANCING WAS WORKED OUT WITH DAHOMEY GOVERNMENT. ON COST MOVING SUPPLIES TO DAHOMEY FROM FERNANDO PO, ICRC DOES NOT FEEL ANY BUDGET PROVISION NECESSARY, APPARENTLY ON ASSUMPTION

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00554 251707Z

CONTINUED OPERATION INTO BIAFRA FROM SANTA ISABEL.

4. REFTEL PARA 2C, FOOD PURCHASES, STOCKFISH PURCHASE NOT INCLUDED IN PRESENT BUDGET. HOWEVER, ONLY ABOUT TWO-THIRDS ANTICIPATED NEEDS COVERED BY EXPECTED DONATIONS. (AMMANN INFORMS MISSION THAT IN RESPONSE US \$300,000 CONTRIBUTION HE IS PREPARING FOR US A RUN DOWN ON STOCKFISH SITUATION. LETTER FOR INFORMATION WILL NOT RPT NOT INCLUDE REQUEST FOR FUNDS OUTSIDE REGULAR BUDGET). BASSET AND AMMANN AGREED YESTERDAY SF12 MILLION SHOULD BE ADDED AS ADDENDUM TO BUDGET FOR STOCKFISH PURCHASES, AND LEFT MISOFF WITH IMPRESSION THIS ALL BUT DONE. BASSET HOWEVER TODAY INFORMED MISSION "HIGER LEVELS" IN IRCE FELT STRONGLY THAT BUDGET SHOULD BE HELD AT SF84 MILLION LEVEL, AND THAT IF STOCKFISH DONATIONS DID NOT MEET NEED TOWARD END OF PERIOD MATTER COULD BE TAKEN UP THEN. BASSET UNDERSTOOD US WISH NOT TO BE APPROACHED FOR SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, SAID HE HIMSELF AND AMMANN STRONGLY FAVORED ADDITION TO BUDGET NOW, AND THAT HE WOULD PRESS THE MATTER AT TOMORROWS MEETING OF THE ICRC COMMITTEE. SAID HE HOPED HAVE DECISION BY FRIDAY.

5. REFTEL PARA 2D, VEHICLES. ICRC SAYS IT HAS ALLOWED SF25,000 PER TRUCK FOR 100 TRUCKS, OR 2.5 MILLION, PLUS 100,000 FOR OTHER EQUIPMENT, MAKING 2.6 MILLION IN ALL, OF WHICH .5 MILLION IS COMMITTED BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. ICRC ACKNOWLEDGES ITS BUDGETING HERE IS ON TIGHT SIDE.

6. REFTEL PARA 2E, DONATIONS IN KIND. ICRC HAS ASKED THE COMMON MARKET FOR 20,000 TONS (MAIZE, BARLEY, ROLLED OATS); NO ANSWER YET. BELGIUM HAS OFFERED 14,000 TONS CEREALS, AND SWITZERLAND CONSIDERED GOOD FOR 4,000 TONS. THIS 38,000 PLUS 51,000 AVAILABLE FROM US (THROUGH VOLAGS) IS MUCH MORE THAN NEEDED. AMMANN SEES NEED FOR SELECTION AMONG AVAILABILITIES. BELIEVES CALLS US SURPLUS FOOD MIGHT WELL BE REDUCED.

7. IN COURSE DISCUSSION ABOVE SPECIFIC POINTS, AND REFTEL INQUIRIES (PARA 1S) AS TO WHETHER CONTINGENCY PLANNING INCLUDED IN FINANCIAL ESTIMATES, BASSET EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF BASIS AID WISH TO HAVE ALL KNOWN AND REASONABLY TO BE ANTICIPATED ITEMS INCLUDED IN BUDGET. HE COMMENTED, HOWEVER, THAT PLAN AND BUDGET HAD BEEN PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION TO ALL DONORS, MOST OF WHOM (US ASIDE) WOULD QUESTION ANYTHING OTHER THAN TIGHT BUDGET GEARED RATHER CLOSELY TO PRESENT SITUATION.

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 00554 251707Z

SAID IN ICRC EXPERIENCE DONORS MORE LIKELY TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUCH BUDGET ON TACIT UNDERSTANDING ICRC MIGHT COME BACK FOR MORE IF NEW DEVELOPMENTS SO REQUIRED.

8. BASSET ALSO COMMENTED THAT IN ANY CASE BUDGET HAD BEEN PRESENTED ON FEB 17 TO RC SOCIETIES FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION AND FOR THEM TO TAKE UP WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS, AND TO GOVERNMENT REPS FEB 21. IT WAS ALREADY THE BASIS IN MANY QUARTERS FOR CONSIDERATION OF DONATIONS. ICRC (INCLUDING COMMITTEE ITSELF) FELT THAT JUGGLING WITH THE FIGURES WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. BASSET HIMSELF FAVORED THE ADDITION FOR STOCKFISH BUT OTHERWISE AGREED WITH ICRC POSITION.

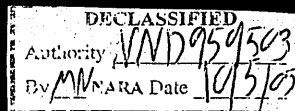
9. COMMENT: MISSION WOULD SUGGEST THAT PRESENT BUDGET (WITH POSSIBLE BOOST FOR STOCKFISH) UNSATISFACTORY THOUGH IT MAY BE, SHOULD BE TAKEN AS BASIS FOR US DETERMINATION LEVEL ITS CONTRIBUTION. US SUGGESTIONS REGARDING ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF ICRC, AND SPECIFIC PLANNING, ARE JUST AS LIKELY TO BE EFFECTIVE IT NOT TIED BY IMPLICATION AT LEAST, TO QUESTION OF LEVEL OF US CONTRIBUTION. IN VIEW US INTEREST IN RELIEF, AND ROLE IN PERSUADING ICRC UNDERTAKE COORDINATION EFFORT, ICRC IN ANY CASE KNOWS CONTRIBUTION WILL BE SUBSTANTIAL, AND THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE NO POINT TO MAKING EARLY DECISION AND ANNOUNCEMENT CONTINGENT ON ICRC MEETING CONDITIONS WHICH ITS RELATIONS WITH OTHER DONORS MAKE DIFFICULT. BELIEVE US CAN MAKE ITS POINTS BEST WITH FREYMOND AND OTHERS IF FINANCIAL PROBLEM NOT TOO OBTRUSIVELY INVOLVED.

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PC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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Classification

Origin	Action	Destination	Priority
	Ambassador	THE HAGUE	PRIORITY
	"	LAGOS	PRIORITY
Info:	INFO: Ambassador	ADDIS ABABA	
	"	ABIDJAN	
	"	BONN	
	"	BRUSSELS	
	"	COPENHAGEN	
	"	LONDON	
	"	LUXEMBOURG	
	"	OSLO	
	"	PARIS	
	"	ROME	
	"	OTTAWA	
	"	STOCKHOLM	
	US Mission	GENEVA	
		USUN	

STATE _____

REF: The Hague 225

SUBJECT: Nigeria Relief: "Luns Plan"

(16) 1. Proposal is interesting addition to other relief access route proposals which have been advanced. Unable at this time to give assessment of its technical and political feasibility. Related water corridor idea, advanced by Biafra, envisaged route up Nun Branch of Niger River to Oguta. This last has, however, been technically determined as unfeasible in all but height of rainy season and as adversely affected by Oguta terminus being in military target area near Uli airport.

Drafted by: AF/W:GBSherry:emb 2/24/69	Tel. Ext.: 5462	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Roy M. Melbourne Nigeria Task Force
Clearances: AF - Amb. Moore (draft) AID/AFR/CWA - Mr. North (draft) EUR/FBX - Mr. Holmes (draft)		

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By: MWA Date: 10/5/05

THE HAGUE, LAGOS PRIORITY

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Notice, unable send expert. Request Embassy send
representative again as observer and report results. He may draw on
above as necessary but should not commit US.
Request
FOR LAGOS: ~~Request~~ Embassy and Dewey/Flaherty comment on Luns proposal
(reftel).

GP-3

END

RICHARDSON

FORM DS-322A
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CONTINUATION SHEET

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By <i>MW</i> Date <i>10/5/05</i>

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

Addis Ababa 767
9-24-69

CONFIDENTIAL 554

PAGE 01 ADDIS 00767 240750Z

22

ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CCO 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8540

INFO AMEMBASSY LAOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL ADDIS ABABA 767

REF: STATE 028225; ADDIS 751

MOFA CONFIRMS NO RESPONSE FROM OUUKWU.

HALL

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0267

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Authority: VND 950/503
By: MN NARA Date: 10/3/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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24 Feb 69 23 31
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Origin
Info

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS
INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA
INFO: Amembassy LONDON
PARIS
US MISSION GENEVA
USUN
CINGSTRIKE
Amconsul IBADAN
KADUNA

SUBJECT: Nigeria Press Summary - Feb 23

1. Wash Post Feb 23 story headed Nixon names aide for Biafra relief, announces President naming Clarence Clyde Ferguson, Jr., 44, law professor at Rutgers and former dean Howard University Law School as special coordinator for Biafran relief. His authority extends solely to humanitarian aspects Biafran situation. White House said he will not be negotiating other issues of Nigerian civil war. Principal task he faces is to broaden narrow relief channels into Biafra. President called existing arrangements "hazardous and inadequate." Post adds in parenthesis FMG has said it agreed three weeks ago surrender use of airstrip on southern fringe Biafra so it could be used for international supervised daytime landings. Biafran officials have failed to respond to the offer, Nigeria claimed END PAREN. Announcement Ferguson appointment was part of general outline Administration policy on Biafra. In statement, President expressed American people's "anguish" at suffering in African war and pledged nation's help in relieving it; said he making "a sharp distinction between carrying out our moral obligation to respond effectively to

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Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Nigeria Task Force:RM Melbourne

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

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Origin

ACTION: Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

humanitarian needs and involving ourselves in political affairs of others." Specifically he said USG would seek international cooperation on these steps: obtaining accurate survey nutritional needs war's victims; encouraging additional donations food and supplies; and improving supply channels. Nixon said there is "widely conflicting information" about future food requirements in area. US therefore "urgently seeking a comprehensive internationally conducted survey." ICRC and volags feeding some two million persons in Biafra and another million in federal areas, but need expected grow, President said. Statement said relief efforts were "greatly complicated by political and military issues that divide the contestants. Unfortunately, the humanitarian urge to feed starving has become enmeshed in those issues and stands in danger of interpretation by the parties as form of intervention. But surely it is within conscience and ability of man to give effect to his humanitarianism without involving himself in politics of dispute." State Dept said it not yet decided whether Ferguson would go to Nigeria or work out of Washington. Nixon said coordinator would work with ICRC, other relief agencies, OAU, donor govts and parties to dispute. "Main problem is neither money, food, nor means of transport. Main problem is absence of relief arrangements acceptable to two sides which would overcome limitations posed by present hazardous and inadequate nighttime airlift,"

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

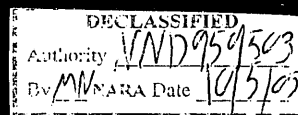
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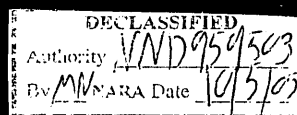
Origin	ACTION: Page 3 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS	
Info:	<p>Nixon said. Senator Goodell earlier this week predicted tenfold increase in American aid, including planes, ships, more food. President's statement yesterday fell short of that.</p> <p>2. Balt Sun and Wash Star carried similar pieces on Ferguson appointment. Star added Nixon made it clear Ferguson "will not seek and will not accept a charge to negotiate issues other than those directly relevant to relief."</p> <p>3. NYTimes piece was too late for Washington editions Sunday Times, but USUN sending Dept copy via septel.</p> <p>4. Star Sunday carries AP Lagos piece headed French support blamed for long Biafran war, based on Enahoro news conference Saturday. He said there have been repeated exchanges with France over its support Biafra but would not reveal French response to inquiries. Nigeria has been anxious avoid showdown with French who last year provided its war-weakened economy with \$28 million in foreign exchange by buying nearly one-third Nigerian ground nut crop. Ironically in view French support Biafran independence, money helps pay for Nigerian war equipment.</p> <p>5. Sunday NYTimes editorial headed stop bombing Biafran civilians. Repeated air attacks on defenseless Biafran civilians, hospitals and other nonmilitary installations have produced bitter results for FMG. Have hardened Biafran</p>	
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ACTION: Page 4 of telegram to Amembassy LAGGS

Info

resolution and inflamed world opinion against Lagos while serving no military purpose whatever. Gowon insists his air force been given "strictest instructions attack only military targets," and there no rpt no reason doubt him. But there now no doubt Egyptian mercenaries flying Soviet planes go deliberately for congested village markets, town centers and Red Cross symbol on hospitals and aid stations, while meticulously avoiding defended Biafran military targets. Lagos can no longer contend such attacks only rare mishaps inevitable in war or that these installations invariably also used for military purposes. Enough foreign observers have been able witness or confirm recent tragedies to discredit Lagos denials. Biafran propaganda may double number casualties, but actual toll often appalling and whole exercise is senseless. It true Biafran side started bombing population centers with three raids on Lagos early in war and that aircraft believed operating outside Nigeria dropped crude bombs over Benin and Calabar last month. Nevertheless, repeated attacks on densely populated Biafran enclave will revalidate for many charge of "genocide" against Lagos that had been heavily diluted by consistent findings international observer team in Nigeria in recent months. Gowon should order halt to all but tactical front line air activity, only kind that makes military sense this type of war and send Egyptians home. His response

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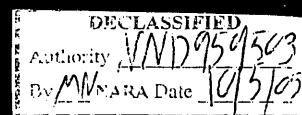
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Info:

ACTION: Page 5 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

this situation will provide test not only his good faith but his military judgment and control over Nigerian armed forces.

6. Times carries Graham Hovey story of Ojukwu interview from Umuahia under head Biafran leader hopes for plea by Nixon on war. Ojukwu counting heavily for Biafran survival on cease-fire call by Nixon. He clearly hopes de Gaulle will persuade Nixon in Paris next week agree to joint appeal for end to civil war. He conceded such joint declaration would be regarded everywhere as dramatic open break by US with Britain and said he would be satisfied if Nixon merely put private pressure on British to alter course. "Great powers don't make mistakes and governments don't admit mistakes lightly. They must find way to save face," he went on. If US called for cease-fire, three-fourths of Africa would join call. All of Africa, barring two, three, at most four states would support action. In that event FMG would find it difficult continue war backed only by USSR. "I know my Nigerian friends. I know them very well. The specter of a complete tie-up with Russia would frighten Nigerians, except possibly for some Government ministers. I think this specter would cause a soul-searching reappraisal in Lagos," said Ojukwu.

7. Times has Reuters Addis story on Arikpo press conference re Obilagu airstrip. He said FMG offer result moves initiated by Rep. Allard Lowenstein.

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Info:

ACTION: Page 6 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

Relief cargoes flown into Obilagu, which some 15 miles east Okigwe and 60 miles
road,
north Port Harcourt would be taken into Biafra by ~~xxxxx~~ would be transferred
to trucks after inspection by representative team officials from OAU and one
or two countries mutually acceptable both sides in war. Times also has AP
Umuahia story on blockade runners getting rich bringing Biafra scarce goods.
Traders make way north in rickety trucks, ~~8~~ jalopies, using bush trails,
objective being "attack market" trading center in Nigerian territory. They
armed with Nigerian shilling coins, take radios, flashlights, other manufactured
goods, trade for salt, beans, batteries, sugar, canned goods, thread, cloth
and razor blades. Forty pound bag salt may sell Umuahia for \$432.

8. Times New York edition story Ferguson appointment says move was promptly
welcomed by Senator Kennedy, who said: "I am hopeful it will lead to
international humanitarian alliance and for our nation a massive commitment
of food, medicine, funds and logistical support. I pledge the ~~xxxxx~~
President my full support in this effort and I appeal to the leaders of
Nigeria-Biafra to open mercy corridors into areas of need on both sides
of the battle line."

END

ACTING

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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Origin

ACTION: AmEmbassy, LAGOS

Info:

Rptd Info: AmEmbassy, ADDIS ABABA
LONDON
PARIS
US MISSION GENEVA
USUN
CINCSTRIKE
AmConsul, IBADAN
KADUNA

STATE

Nigeria:

Subject: /Department Spokesman Briefing - February 24

1. Following is excerpt transcript Dept spokesman noon briefing

February 24:

Q. Have you any more details on the Ferguson relief mission to Biafra and Nigeria?

A. Yes. I think so. This refers, of course, to an announcement made by the President over the weekend.

As the White House statement made clear, Mr. Ferguson will direct his efforts toward expediting and enlarging the flow of relief to innocent civilians on both sides of the battle line. He will be working closely with the ICRC and other relief agencies, the Organization of African Unity, & other donor countries, and, of course, the two sides involved in the civil war. But this mandate is clear and unequivocal. He will be dealing only with relief matters. His discussions or exchanges

Drafted by:

AF:AF/P:RLPerkins:djw 2/24/69

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Nigeria Task Force-Mr. Melbourne

Clearances:

P/ON - Mr. Bartch (subs)

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ACTION: AmEmbassy, LAGOS

Info:

PAGE 2

with the two sides and with other parties will be concerned only with relief.

X. He is not a political mediator. His appointment in no way implies US political involvement in the civil war. On the contrary, it is an indication that our concern is strictly humanitarian.

Now, as far as Mr. Ferguson's future plans are concerned, he will be meeting with the Secretary of State after the Secretary returns from Europe. And I am sure he will be traveling a great deal after he assumes the job. But beyond that regarding his schedule, where he might go, with whom he might talk or any other aspects, this will have to be worked out and I am afraid I can't give you any further details at this early stage. But as soon as possible, we will try to give you a fill in on this.

Q. You made it fairly clear that he is to deal only with relief matters, not with political questions. I would like to ask whether you'd consider the matter of opening a land corridor for making daylight flights available as a relief matter or a political matter?

A. Well, of course, there is a bit of both in that, isn't there?

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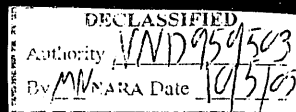
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Info:

PAGE 3

Q. That is why I asked the question.

A. Yes, I think he would be involved in that. To what extent, I don't know. He may work through the Red Cross rather than work directly on that matter. That just hasn't been determined yet.

Q. Would this in any way imply an increase in official contacts between the United States and Biafran authorities?

A. No, I wouldn't take this to mean that in the sense of official diplomatic contacts.

Mr. Ferguson is working on humanitarian relief problems and there should be no political connotation given to any contacts he has with any of the parties concerned.

Q. One last question. If these relief arrangements that are mentioned in the President's statement were to include the ~~opening~~ opening of the land corridor or daylight airlift, ~~am~~ would this not include limited ceasefire arrangements and would not these limited cease-fire arrangements be political as well as humanitarian?

A. Well, if that happens, ask me the question at that time, will you?

END

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Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

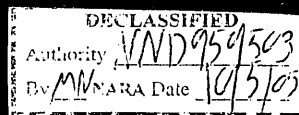
Clearances:

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

FORM
8-65 DS-322

0276



66

POL 27-9 BIAFRA NIGERIA

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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44
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Origin	ACTION: AmEmbassy, LAGOS
Info	Rptd Info: AmEmbassy, ADDIS ABABA LONDON PARIS US MISSION GENEVA USUN CINCSTRIKE AmConsul, IBADAN KADUNA
	STATE Nigeria: Subject: / Dept. Spokesman Briefing - February 24 - Additional question
	1. In addition excerpts noon briefing transmitted unclassified septel, following exchange occurred:
	Q. Could you tell us to what extent we have had contact with Biafran authorities in the past and what these greys in your statement means so far as future contacts is concerned?
	A. Well, let me go ON BACKGROUND and say I would assume that he would be traveling not only to Nigeria but to Biafra. But, of course, this hasn't been worked out yet.
	In reply to your question I believe--well, I know that we have not had any one resident in Biafra since we closed our Consulate there sometime ago. Now as to whether American officials may have visited Biafra, I just don't have any names or dates. I know a number of Congressmen who have been there.
	END ACTING

28845

8

Drafted by: AF:AF/P:RLPerkins:djw 2/24/69
Clearances: P/ON - Mr. Bartch (subs)
C B/R J

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Authority VMD 954503
By MWA Date 10/3/05

75



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 285

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00539 241842Z

50
ACTION SS 70

INFO CIAE 00, /070 W

052717

R 241800Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 413

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 539

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: LINDT NOW TO CONTINUE AS ICRC HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR WEST AFRICA

REF: GENEVA 467

1. FREYMOND, ACTING PRESIDENT ICRC, ADVISES LINDT NOT SOON RETURNING TO MOSCOW AS REPORTED REFTEL. BERN HAD WANTED LINDT RETURN TO MOSCOW BUT AGREES TO CONTINUATION IN PRESENT ROLE. LINDT PRESENTLY IN NIGERIA, RETURNING GENEVA WEDNESDAY, FEB 26.

2. I BELIEVE CHANGE OF PLANS DUE IN PART TO UNDERSTANDING THAT FREYMOND WILL TAKE ACTIVE ROLE IN MANAGEMENT NIGERIAN-BIAFRAN PROGRAM, WITH LINDT PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION. FREYMOND BELIEVES ICRC MOVING OUT OF MOST DIFFICULT NEGOTIATING PERIOD AND THAT LINDT EFFECTIVE OPERATIONS CHIEF. TUBBY

GENEVA-539
2-24 69

CONFIDENTIAL 22

0278

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By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

L I M D I S
I N C O M I N G

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Summary
Task Force

Principals
ES2 5
S
U
J2
SIG 1
S/AH 3

S/CPR
S/GOV
S/IL
S/P
S/R
S/FW
S/PM
M/WP
J/PM

Geographic
AF5 X
ARA 9
EA 11
EUR 10 10
NEA 8

Functional
CU
E2
H
IGA
INR 6
IO4 X 4
L2
O3
OPR
OC
SY
WLG
P2
SCA
SCS
SCI

OTHER AGENCIES

WH 10
CIA TP
DOD
USIA 4
NSA

Other
ACDA 5
AID/EXSEC 3
AA/AFR2
AA/VN 2
AA/EA 3
AA/NESA 2

PC
VP
AEC 3
AGR 3
COM 2
EXIM
FRB
LAB
NASA
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STR
TRANS
TRSY 6
JUS
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By MW NARA Date 10/3/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-
NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 601

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01682 242206Z

91
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, AID 28, SCSE 00, SCA 01, ACDA 16,

SR 01, ORM 03, E 15, DOT 12, TRSY 11, RSR 01, 187 W

053860

R 241615Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5154
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA UNN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA UNN
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY UNN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE UNN
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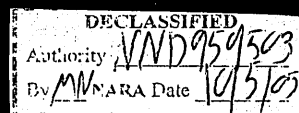
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN PRESS ROUNDUP--FEBRUARY 23 AND 24

1. ZIK QTE SACKED UNQTE BY OJUKWU. SUNDAY PAPERS FEBRUARY 23 FEATURED INFO COMMISSIONER ENAHOROS ASSERTION AT PRESS CONFERENCE THAT OJUKWU HAD ORDERED BIAFRANS ABROAD NOT RPT NOT TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH EX-PRESIDENT AZIKIWE. ANAHORO CLAIMED HIS INFO BASED ON QTE INTELLIGENCE REPORTS UNQTE, AND ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS QTE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES PRESUMED THAT THE INSTRUCTION UNQTE MIGHT HAVE BEEN RELATED TO QTE AZIKIWE'S PEACE PLAN WHICH THE FMG HAS SINCE REJECTED UNQTE. MOST PAPERS GAVE PLAY TO APPEALS BY FMG UN REP OGBU AND CHIEF OKAFOR (PROMINENT IBO BUSINESSMAN WHO RECENTLY LEFT BIAFRA) TO QTE COME BACK UNQTE TO FMG, WHERE HIS SAFETY WOULD BE ASSURED.

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47

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 01682 242206Z.

WM FMG BOMBING. ENAHORO ALSO CONFIRMED THAT FMG CONTINUING BOMB UMUAHIA AND ADDED FMG HAS QTE WILL AND DETERMINATION TO PROSECUTE WAS TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION IF CRISIS NOT OTHERWISE RESOLVED UNQTE. THIS INTERPRETED BY LAGOS PAPERS TO MEAN BOMBINGS WILL CONTINUE.

3. PRESIDENTS MESSAGE TO GOWON ON RELIEF. LEADING LAGOS PAPERS FEB 24 HEADLINED NIXON MESSAGE TO GOWON DIFFERENTLY. THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED POST SAID QTE NIXON ASSURES GOWON--NO POLITICS UNQTE. WHILE THE TIMES MADE IT QTE NIXON DECLARES STAND ON NIGERIA--KEEN ON FEEDING THE STARVING UNQTE. PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE PRINTED IN FULL BY POST LIBERALLY QUOTED IN TIMES. NO EDITORIAL COMMENT YET. MATHEWS

UNCLASSIFIED

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MNARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

YU LEG 7 GOODELL

CONFIDENTIAL 820

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00527 241237Z

46
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, UPW 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04

HI 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12

SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, 150 W

050640

R 241148Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 400
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 527

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF; SENATOR GOODELL REPORT ON BIFRA

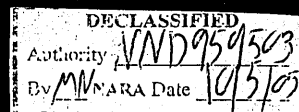
REF: STATE 27746, PARA 2

1. REFERENCES TO GOODELL SCIENTIFIC TEAM REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN BIAFRA HAVE APPEARED IN SWISS AND NO DOUBT GENERALLY IN EUROPEAN PRESS. MISSION HAS ALREADY RECEIVED REQUEST FOR COPIES FROM VITEX SA (GENEVA FIRM REPRESENTING ICELANDIC STOCKFISH PROCEDURES) TO SEND TO ICRC, CARITAS RAEDDA BARNENS-STOCKHOLM, GERMAN RC, ETC., AND FURTHER REQUEST MAY BE EXPECTED.

2. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE COPIES IF DEPARTMENT HAS AVAILABLE. ALSO ANY GUIDANCE WITH RESPECT DEPT/AID VIEWS AS TO VALIDITY FINDINGS, OR FURTHER COMMENTS.
TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

0282



75



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 292

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00534 250854Z

20
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

USIA 12, RSR 01, UPW 01, /150 W

056915

R 241645Z FEB 69 ZFG
 FM USMISSION GENEVA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 408
 INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
 AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 AMEMBASSY LOME
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
 USUN NEW YORK 2783
 USINT SANTA ISABEL

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 534

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: JCA AND ICRC AIRLIFTS

REF: A) GENEVA 501; B) GENEVA 426

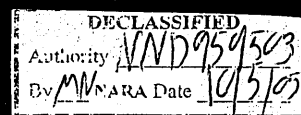
1. FOLLOWING BASED ON DISCUSSION WITH CHENARD AND LUMB OF
 CRS. AFTER FEB 21 MEETING BETWEEN JCA (MOLLERUP, CHENARD,
 LUMB) AND ICRC (FREYMOND, LINDT, BASSET, ZIMMERMAN).

2. COOPERATION. FREYMOND AT MEETING SAID ICRC HAD IN
 MIND "ADVISORY COMMISSION" HEADED BY ICRC TO FOSTER ICRC,
 LICROSS, NATIONAL RC AND VOLAG COOPERATION. IDEA HAD BEEN
 PRESENTED TO LICROSS (COMMENT: LICROSS PROBABLY INVOLVED IN
 INITIATING SUGGESTION) AND TO NATIONAL SOCIETIES, BUT LATTER
 HAD TURNED IT DOWN, AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING. CHENARD TOLD
 FREYMOND CRS (AND HE THOUGHT OTHER VOLAGS) ALWAYS GLAD COOPER-
 ATED BUT FELT THERE SHOULD BE MORE COOPERATION IN OTHER DIREC-
 TION (COMMENT: CHENARD HAS ALWAYS BEEN DISPOSED TO FEAR THAT
 "COOPERATION" MIGHT TURN INTO AN ENMESHING OF VOLAG ACTIVITIES
 IN ICRC OPERATIONS LIMITED--PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS AIRLIFT--
 BY TOO STRICT INTERPRETATION OF GENEVA CONVENTIONS.)

CONFIDENTIAL

8

0283



GENEVA-534
 2-2469



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00534 250854Z

3. SECURITY ULI AIRSTRIP. JCA REPS RAISED QUESTION "INTRUDER" AIRCRAFT, AND ASKED WHAT ICRC WAS DOING ABOUT IT. LINDT IN EFFECT REPLIED ICRC WAS NOT IN POSITION PROTEST MILITARY ACTIONS AGAINST LEGITIMATE MILITARY TARGET (ULI AIRSTRIP). TO JCA OBSERVATION THAT ATTACKS NEED NOT BE DIRECTED AGAINST RELIEF PLANES LINDT REPLIED ALL PLANES LOOK ALIKE IN DARK. (ACCORDING JCA INTRUDER AIRCRAFT IS DC-4 WHICH ARRIVED LAGOS FROM ENGLAND ABOUT DEC 22. PILOT SPEAKS ENGLISH WITH FLEMISH ACCENT. JCA AND ICRC AGREE PILOT IS OBVIOUSLY EXPERIENCED IN TECHNIQUES BOMBING. USUALLY OPERATES ONLY UNTIL ABOUT 11 PM BUT APPEARED 3 AM SATURDAY MORNING AND DAMAGED JCA PLANE WHICH CONSEQUENTLY UNABLE RETURN SAO TOME THAT NIGHT.)

4. LINDT INDICATED ICRC KEEPS LAGOS INFORMED OF COTONOU FLIGHTS TO ULI. CHENARD SUGGESTED THIS WAS TANTAMOUNT TO GIVING INSTRUCTIONS TO "INTRUDER".

5. TECHNICAL IMPROVEMENTS AT ULI. JCA AND ICRC DISCUSSED NEED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT FACT ULI CONTROL TOWER IS TWO MILES FROM AIRSTRIP, MAKING TOWER-AIRSTRIP COORDINATION DIFFICULT AND INCREASING LANDING HAZARDS.

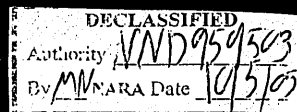
6. DAY FLIGHTS. ALL PARTICIPANTS RECOGNIZED NEED KEEP TRYING FOR DAY FLIGHTS. FREYMOND APPARENTLY SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY NEW INITIATIVE BUT CONSENSUS APPARENTLY WAS THAT PROSPECTS WERE NOT FAVORABLE. (COMMENT: THERE WAS CLEARLY NO DECISION TO PRESS MATTER MORE VIGOROUSLY THAN HERETOFORE, ALTHOUGH THIS MAY BE ON FREYMOND'S MIND TO PURSUE IN SOME OTHER CONTEXT.)

7. BONUSES FOR AIR CREWS. JCA SUGGESTED NEED FOR JCA-ICRC AGREEMENT ON BONUSES TO AIR CREWS. ICRC AGREED EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND DISCUSS FURTHER. (AT PRESENT IT APPEARS ICRC CREWS GET \$50 BONUS FIRST FLIGHT AND \$100 FOR EACH SUCCESSIVE FLIGHT SAME NIGHT. JCA REPORTEDLY PAYS \$50 PER NIGHT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER ANY FLIGHT MADE, OR HOW MANY. ICRC HAS TWO CREWS PER PLANE, AND JCA HAS ONE; THUS ICRC CREWS MAKE FEWER FLIGHTS AND DISPARITY BETWEEN TOTAL ICRC AND JCA BONUSES PER MONTH IS PERHAPS NOT GREAT.

8. INSPECTION SAO TOME CARGOES (REF B). JCA HOPED ICRC WOULD BE HELPFUL IF ITS VIEWS REQUESTED BY GOS ON JCA APPROACH

CONFIDENTIAL

0284





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GENEVA 00534 250854Z

TO GOS FOR ASSISTANCE ON INSPECTION QUESTION. CHENARD COMMENTED
ICRC HAD IN EFFECT KILLED POSSIBILITY PHILIPPINE RC UNDER-
TAKING TASK. FREYMOND, ACCORDING TO CHENARD, IMPLIED THAT
ICRC WOULD BE MORE HELPFUL THIS TIME (PRESUMABLY BECAUSE
VOLAG INVOLVED AND NOT RC SOCIETY WHICH INDIRECTLY SUBJECT
TO GENEVA CONVENTION LIMITATIONS WHICH APPLY TO ICRC.)

9. CHENARD INFORMS MISSION HE EXPECTS RESPONSE FROM GOS THIS
WEEK. HE BELIEVES GOS WANTED CONSULT WITH LINDT AND FREYMOND,
WHEN LINDT WAS IN GENEVA, BEFORE MAKING UP ITS MIND.
TUBBY

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0285

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Authority	VND959503
By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 284

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00538 241837Z

52
ACTION IO 15

INFO AF 12, ARA 08, EA 10, EUR 15, NEA 13, RSC 01, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28,
SCS 04, SCA 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, HI 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00,
NSC 10, P 04, SP 02, SS 20, ACDA 16, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, RSR 01,
/180 W

052667

P R 241800Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 412
INFO USUN NEW YORK 2785
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 538

SUBJ: NIGERIA-BIAFRA; PAUL O'DWYER PROPOSAL

REF: GENEVA 484 (NOTAL)

1. PURSUANT PLANS REPORTED REFTEL, PAUL O'DWYER (NY LAWYER) ARRIVED GENEVA FEB 23. AFTER MEETING WITH MCBRIDE (INTERNATL COMM OF JURISTS) DURING WHICH MCBRIDE SAYS HE DESCRIBED DIFFICULTIES OF PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION SEEKING HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (HRC) ACTION ON NIGERIA-BIAFRA SITUATION, HE LUNCHEDED FEB 24 WITH AMB TUBBY AND MRS. HAUSER, USREP ON HRC. THEY EXPLAINED WIDESPREAD SENTIMENT AGAINST UN CONSIDERATION THIS QUESTION AND DIFFICULTY ANY STATE WOULD ENCOUNTER IN SEEKING HAVE ITEM ADDED TO AGENDA. SUGGESTED HE CONSULT OTHER HRC MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY AFRICANS.

2. O'DWYER VISITED HRC AFTERNOON FEB 24 AND CONSULTED IN CORRIDORS, TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, SENEGAL (BOYE) AND TANZANIA. SENEGAL TOLD HIM THIS WAS AFRICAN QUESTION AND NOT PROPER FOR UN CONSIDERATION. TANZANIAN REACTION NOT KNOWN.

CONFIDENTIAL 22

GENEVA-538
2-24-69

0286

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By MWA Date 10/3/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00538 241837Z

3. O'DWYER ALSO PRESENTED LETTER TO SECRETARIAT FORWARDING STATEMENT SIGNED BY WARREN MOSKOWITZ, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN BIAFRA-NIGERIA, 663 5TH AVE, NYC, WHICH WILL BE HANDLED AS OTHER COMMUNICATIONS FROM PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS, UNDER AGENDA ITEM 22 (COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS), AND NOT DISCUSSED EXCEPT IN EVENT OF INITIATIVE BY HRC MEMBER STATE. LETTER (COPY POUCHED DEPT, IO/UNP) APPEALS TO HRC TO "END THE SILENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF NATIONS" RE PRESENT CRISIS IN BIAFRA/NIGERIA AND URGES HRC "TO CALL UPON THOSE ORGANS OF THE UN, SEIZED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ACTING IN ARMED CONFLICTS, TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO BRING ABOUT AN UNCONDITIONAL CEASE FIRE IN THE BIAFRA/NIGERIA CONFLICT SO THAT THOSE INNOCENT VICTIMS OF THE WAR MAY RECEIVE MASSIVE HUMANITARIAN AID UNDER PEACEFUL CONDITIONS."

4. O'DWYER TALKED AT LENGTH WITH HAMILTON OF NYTIMES AND WAS MAKING EFFORT SEE OTHER CORRESPONDENTS. WHEN HAMILTON ASKED ABOUT MRS. HAUSER'S ATTITUDE TOWARD O'DWYER PROPOSAL AND WHY US DID NOT REQUEST AGENDA ITEM, O'DWYER INDICATED MRS. HAUSER UNDOUBTEDLY WAS INSTRUCTED USREP AND HE WOULD PURSUE QUESTION OF US POLICY IN WASH. HE DID NOT RPT NOT INDICATE TO HAMILTON THAT USDEL HAD TAKEN EITHER TOTALLY NEGATIVE POSITION OR HAD ENCOURAGED HIM. IN REPLY TO HAMILTON QUERY TO HER ABOUT POSSIBLE HRC DISCUSSION, MRS. HAUSER MERELY NOTED ITEM NOT ON AGENDA.

5. O'DWYER PLANNING DEPART GENEVA FOR US MORNING FEB 25.
GP-3
TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL 22

0287

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA -
NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 983

2-24-69
319

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00319 241514Z

50
ACTION: AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCs 04,
SCA 01, RSR 01, 150 W
----- 051437

R 241214Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3658
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 908
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMIS GENEVA
DIA UNN
CINCSTRIKE/MEAFSA UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 319

SUBJ: BIAFRA AIRLIFT

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 348

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

EMBASSY LUSAKA HAS SO FAR HAD NO LUCK VERIFYING TRANSIT
TWINBOOM AIRCRAFT DESCRIBED REFTEL, OR ANY OTHER BIAFRA
TRAFFIC.
GP-3
EDMONDSON

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL
31

0288

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VND 959503
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

(11)



POL 32-1 DAHOMEY -
NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XL POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 COTONO 00215 241803Z

45
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, OC 06, CCO 00, AID 28, PC 04, E 15, COM 08, DOT 12, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, EUR 15, RSR 01, 194 W
052453

R 241608Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1898
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY LOME
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 215

1. NIGERIAN BORDER AUTHORITIES HAVE PLACED SEVERE RESTRICTIONS ON NUMBER DAHOMEAN-REGISTERED VEHICLES PERMITTED TO CROSS INTO NIGERIA DURING ANY GIVEN DAY. BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, ONLY TWELVE VEHICLES WITH DAHOMEAN REGISTRATION PERMITTED TO CROSS INTO NIGERIA AT IDIROKO. NUMBER REDUCED TO NINE FOR FEBRUARY 23. NIGERIAN CHARGE TOLD EMBASSY HE THOUGHT BORDER CLOSED COMPLETELY FEBRUARY 24. VEHICLES REGISTERED IN TOGO AND GHANA ARE PERMITTED TO PASS.

2. DCM ASKED NIGERIAN CHARGE IF CONTROL MEASURES HAD BEEN PROMPTED BY ICRC AIRLIFT AND HE LAUGHED QUESTION OFF, STATING HE WOULD COMMENT ON QUESTION SOME OTHER TIME.

3. COMMENT: NIGERIANS COULD BE MOTIVATED BY DESIRE TO HINDER SMUGGLING OPERATIONS, BUT DAHOMEANS INCLINED BELIEVE BORDER RESTRICTIONS REFLECT FMO IRRITATION AT COTONOU BEING USED FOR ICRC AIRLIFT. WOULD APPRECIATE VIEWS EMBASSY LAGOS. KNOX

(2)
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23

0289

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 95/503
By MNA Date 10/5/05

46

911175 5-C-121
This document released to
public per *J. Bishop AF*

February 24, 1969

Dear Congressman Riegle:

PD 4 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

The Secretary of State has asked me to reply to your letter of February 5 about relief for victims of the Nigerian civil war.

The Department of State shares your sympathy and deep concern for the human tragedy taking place as a result of the conflict in Nigeria. You are aware of this Government's continuing effort to provide relief for those who are suffering. As you know, the principal obstacles to increasing the flow of relief supplies are political, not technical. In our search for practical measures to alleviate the suffering and to help bring about a satisfactory resolution of this tragic situation, we are keeping the possibility of United Nations action which you suggest under constant review.

On February 22, President Nixon referred to the deep anguish felt by this nation for the terrible suffering in Nigeria and announced that the Secretary of State had at his direction appointed a Special Coordinator for relief. A self-explanatory press release concerning the Special Coordinator is enclosed.

We are deeply grateful for your support of the President and his Administration and are confident that our cooperative efforts will alleviate the suffering of the innocent victims on both sides of the Nigerian civil war.

The Honorable
Donald W. Riegle, Jr.,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C. 20515

March 5, 1969

① AF/W: RMW SAVILLE: *sp*
2/28/69

PD 4 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

0290

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Authority *VND 954503*
By *MW NARA* Date *10/5/05*

-2-

I also enclose current information about the Nigerian situation and our relief efforts which may be of help to you. I greatly appreciate your interest in the Nigerian situation and shall be happy to provide any additional information you desire.

Sincerely,

bw
William B. Macomber, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

Enclosures:

1. Press release
2. Information sheets

Clearances: Nigeria Task Force - Mr. Melbourne
AF - Ambassador Moore *rem*
H - *JH/LS*

25
AF/W:RWFaville:sp 7573
2/25/69

0291

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VN17954503
By	MW NARA Date 10/3/05

FORM DS-1563
12-63

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

ACTION SLIP

(To Remain With Correspondence)

CONTROL NO.

1410

AFW

TO

AF - Mr. Heubeck

DATE

2/7/69

SUBJECT Ltr to Sec. Rogers fm Donald W. Riegle, Jr. dtd 2/5/69 re the
Nigeria-Biafra conflict.

ACTION

*Prompt handling is essential. Return basic correspondence with reply. If delayed call telephone extension below.

For appropriate action.

For direct reply. Comeback copy required

XXXXXXXX

A response for signature by ~~the~~ H - Amb. Macomber

Prepare reply.

Clear with IO

Prepare o to

Refer to White House request of

Due in S/S by

2/12/69

For your information.

REMARKS

COPIES TO

S - Mr. Moffat
U - Mr. Homme
H - Mr. Briggs
IO - Mr. Frisbie
P - Mr. Cheshes

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1969 FEB 10 AM 10 23
OFFICE OF THE ASST.
SECRETARY - AF

gp for
George Kelly
SECRETARIAT STAFF

EXT. 4735

0292

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 950503
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

URGENT
A CONGRESSIONAL - FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

DONALD W. RIEGLE, JR.
MICHIGAN, 7TH DISTRICT
WASHINGTON ADDRESS:
ROOM 1408
LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
PHONE: 225-3611 (202)

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS
DI 425
FLINT
PHOI
ACTION
is assigned to
AF

February 5, 1969

1410

My dear Mr. Secretary:

A great many thoughtful citizens in America are concerned about the plight of millions of civilians in the Nigeria-Biafra area who are affected daily by the conflict there and are dying in great numbers because of starvation and malnutrition. We are aware of the Government's continued efforts to channel large amounts of United States' aid through world health and relief organizations and of President Nixon's recent request for a full-scale review of existing United States aid to Nigerian war victims so that the new Administration could make additional proposals on how to "enlarge and expedite" this effort.

Today, I have introduced a concurrent resolution resolving that the Administration should increase aid and relief efforts in the Nigeria-Biafra area and do everything possible to bring this before the United Nations and work to help send United Nations peace observers into the area. In light of the Nigerian Federal Government's announcement of February 3 that they were preparing for a last final offensive assault on Biafra, I believe quick United States action is most urgent. I, therefore, wish to strongly express my support for the President and his Administration in their efforts to help these two countries find an equitable peace and to ensure that their citizens are not the needless victims of hunger and starvation.

Sincerely,

②
2/7/69
Donald W. Riegle, Jr.
Donald W. Riegle, Jr.

The Honorable William Rogers
Secretary of State
The Department of State
Washington, D. C.

4561

DWR:lf

1969 FEB 7 PM 2 19
RECEIVED
ATTENTION
AMERICAN LUNCH

201 27-9
Biafra-Nigeria

0293

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VND 959503
By: MWA Date: 10/5/05

5-C-121
This document released to
public per J. Bushong AF

9/11/75

February 22, 1969

Dear Mr. Gamble:

I have been asked to reply to your recent letters to the Secretary, the Under Secretary, and the Assistant Secretary for African Affairs, concerning the policy implications of our participation in the relief effort being mounted in the war-affected parts of Nigeria.

I would be pleased to discuss the situation with you on behalf of the Department of State. Your well-informed views would be interesting and useful, and I hope that an explanation of our aims and achievements would be of interest to you.

Enclosed for your information are documents concerning the international relief effort in Nigeria. In particular, I wish to draw your attention to page 3 of "Nigeria - Disaster Emergency Relief Report, January 15, 1969." The "Quick Facts" listed there indicate that the bulk of our contributions to relief have been provided through Lagos. Distribution on the Nigerian side of the fighting lines is accomplished through the Nigerian Red Cross, the Nigerian National Rehabilitation Commission, and through the International Committee of the Red Cross, which has been specifically accepted by the Nigerian Government for this purpose.

I look forward to speaking with you when you visit Washington.

Sincerely,

Enclosures (2)

R. M. Melbourne
Country Director for
Western Africa

Mr. Richard B. Gamble
14 Linnaean Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

RJWach:chg:2/21/69

0294

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 954503
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT CO. (NIGERIA) LTD.

P. O. Box 1284
LAGOS

2013

Cable & Telegrams.
ENTERPRISE LAGOS

17 Martins Street, Lagos
Telephone: 20375

February 10, 1969.

The Hon. Eliot Richardson,
Under Secretary of State,
Department of State,
Washington, D.C.,
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Richardson,

*Signed
Richardson*

As is the case with many Americans working in Nigeria, I am extremely concerned about the possible implications of American policy initiatives with regard to Nigeria. The Federal Government is fighting to "Keep Nigeria One". This is a just and right cause. The Ibos, who controlled the government of the former Eastern Region declared secession and took with them 5,000,000 of the Eastern Minorities. These minority tribes had been suppressed for years, sometimes rather brutally, by the Ibo-controlled Eastern Region Government. They had no desire to be part of Biafra. They have now been liberated and all that remains under Ibo control is Ibo territory. Unfortunately, some of the minority people were forced by the Ibo soldiers to flee at gun-point and they remain in Ibo-controlled territory. The fact that these people fled against their will is clearly stated by the British Observer here, Brigadier Ferguson, in a letter published in the London Times in mid-December.

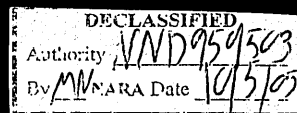
The American government, if it takes action at all, should take action calculated to bring peace to Nigeria. A cease-fire would have no more lasting effect here than it would in Vietnam. What is needed before the fighting can stop is an agreement on how the whole thing can be settled which, in effect, means how the Ibos can be reintegrated into Nigeria. Independence cannot be considered unless the 5,000,000 minorities are to be forced, against their will, to be part of Biafra. Ibo-land itself is not a viable entity. Over-populated and lacking resources, it could not survive. Nigeria has a great deal of oil but only 2% of the known reserves lie in which could be considered Ibo tribal lands.

I hope that American initiatives regarding relief will not aid the military efforts of Biafra. They are doing so now. Nigeria has offered to allow relief flights to go in by day so that the flights

.... /2.

Directors: R.B. Gamble (Managing), I.D. Pritchard (Deputy Managing), J.A. Curran, Jr., A.B. Fafunwa, B.A. Idris
American British American

0295



The Hon. Eliot Richardson, Washington, D.C. 10/2/69 Page 2.

at night would be purely military. Why cannot the U.S. government insist that all aid it gives -- whether directly or indirectly and including the planes it has made available -- can fly only during the day? General Gowon has made an offer which must be unprecedented in the history of war, whether international or civil, to allow the enemy civilian population to be fed by third parties. It is the least the United States can do to respect his conditions. In doing so not only will relief efforts not be hampered but they should be enhanced. Flights in the day should not only be able to lift a greater quantity of materials, they should also be cheaper because the plane operators can in no way claim hazardous duty pay.

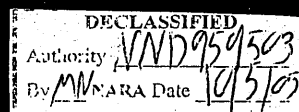
Sincerely yours,

Richard B. Gamble

Richard B. Gamble.

Voting Residence
14, Linnaean Street,
Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

0296



ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT CO. (NIGERIA) LTD.

P.O. Box 1284
LAGOS

Cable & Telegrams,
ENTERPRISE LAGOS

1152

17 Martins Street Lagos
Telephone: 20375

January 27, 1969.

The Hon. William Rogers,
Department of State,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Rogers,

Much play has been given in the Nigerian press to your meeting with the Foreign Minister of Equatorial Guinea at which conference you asked that permission be given for relief flights to resume. Obviously, your motives in making the request were humanitarian and not, as some people here believe, designed to achieve some imperialistic interest of the United States. Unfortunately, the entire situation here has been greatly misunderstood by the American people. This was obvious to me during my recent two months stay in the United States. Writing as a businessman who has spent eight years living and working in Nigeria, I would like to bring some aspects of the situation to your attention.

The Biafrans claim they are fighting merely for the right of self-determination. They were, they say, once a part of the Federation but were thrown out and large numbers were killed in the North. They have spent literally millions of dollars paying public relations firms in Europe and the United States to publicize the above as well as the fact that they are starving. To those who know a bit more about it the situation is quite different.

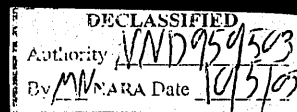
It is true that thousands of Ibos were killed in the North and some in the Mid-West when the latter area was retaken from the Biafran Army which had conquered it. Regrettable though the killings in the North were, they were also understandable in African terms and particularly as a response to the Ibo behavior between the first and second coup, over which eight-month period the Ibos de facto controlled the Nigerian Government. It is also true that the Ibos themselves have in blood just as cold killed hundreds, perhaps thousands, of non-Ibo Easterners and Mid-Westerners.

The Ibo claim that they are merely fighting for the right of self-determination just does not hold up. Of the 13,000,000 people who lived in the Eastern Region when the Ibos claimed independence, 5,000,000 were not Ibos but members of the "Eastern Minorities".

...../2.

Directors: R.B. Garble (Managing), I.D. Pritchard (Deputy Managing), J.A. Curran, Jr., A.B. Fafunwa, B.A. Idris
American British American

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people who had been suppressed by the Ibo controlled Eastern Region government for years and who for the most part had no desire to be part of the Republic of Biafra. However, the Ibos had to include these "minority areas" for otherwise Biafra would not be viable. Ibo-land itself is landlocked, very densely populated, a food-importing area, and without significant natural resources. The oil, which made Biafra a possibility, virtually all lies in "minority areas".

While Ibo civilians were killed prior to and during the early days of the fighting when the Federal Army was raw, scared and undisciplined, such is no longer the case. The Ibos have made a great deal of their claim that the Federal Government is bent on genocide. However, all recent evidence indicates otherwise, which evidence includes the reports of the official observers sent by Canada, Britain, Poland, Sweden, the OAU and the UN. More than 30,000 Ibos live peacefully in Lagos itself, many are in government. The companies I manage employ several, some in high positions. (Contrast this with the treatment of the West Coast Japanese during World War II.)

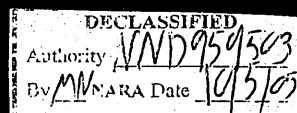
Despite the emotional appeal in favor of Biafra which is now going on in the United States, I believe the United States should work for peace in Nigeria by pressuring the Biafrans into surrendering and rejoining the Federation. The Ibos will be welcomed. There is amazingly little hostility towards the Ibo in other parts of the country. No other outcome possible for the war seems possible.

Had it not been for the international relief efforts which gave Biafra the will and the backing to go on, I believe the war would have been over months ago. The actual food they received was of relatively small importance. I recommend that the United States cease its efforts to get relief supplies into Biafra. Rather our government should state that it supports "One Nigeria", as the saying goes here, that it will not send aid to rebel areas now, but that it is prepared to do all it can to aid the suffering as soon as hostilities cease. Advocating such a stance may seem cold-blooded and "anti-humanitarian". Yet I feel it will save more lives than the relief supplies now being flown in could possibly save. The war continues because of the relief efforts (it is the efforts and the propaganda that goes with it rather than the food). Withdraw the sympathy for the rebel cause and the chances for ending the hostilities would be greatly increased.

You should also be aware of the anti-American feeling developing here due to the American efforts, both official and private, to aid Biafra. Not surprisingly efforts to feed one's enemy are taken as a hostile act, especially when made with no noticeable support of the Federal cause. If it continues, the United States will soon lose her options, either to help end the fighting or to help the

..../3.

0298

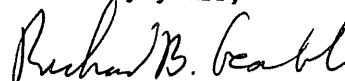


The Hon. William Rogers, Washington, D.C. 27/1/69 Page 3.

country develop after the war. Ambassador Matthews has done an excellent job in indicating the U.S. support for One Nigeria, but as his words come without support from and often contra-indications from Washington, they fall on deaf ears in Nigeria.

I wish you well in your new task and regret that one of your early problems will be to chart an appropriate course in a very complicated and misunderstood situation.

Sincerely yours,



Richard B. Gamble

Voting Residence,

14, Linnaean Street,
Cambridge, Mass. 02138,
U.S.A.

0299

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05

FORM DS-1563
12-63

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

ACTION SLIP

(To Remain With Correspondence)

CONTROL NO.

2013

AFW

TO

AF - Mr. Heubeck

DATE

2/18/69

SUBJECT Ltr to Under Sec. fm Richard B. Gamble dtd 2/10 re Nigeria crisis.

ACTION

*Prompt handling is essential. Return basic correspondence with reply. If delayed call telephone extension below.

For appropriate action.

For direct reply. Comeback copy required

XXXXXXXXXXXX

A response for signature by the

Prepare reply.

Clear with

Prepare a to

Refer to White House request of

Due in S/S by

For your information.

REMARKS

COPIES TO

P - Mr. Cheshes
IO - Mr. Frisbie

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY - AF

1969 FEB 19 PM 2 52

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

gpk
George Kelly
SECRETARIAT STAFF

EXT. 4735

0300

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 954503
By MVA Date 10/3/05

FORM DS-1563
12-63

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
ACTION SLIP
(To Remain With Correspondence)

CONTROL NO.

AFW
S/S 1152

TO

AF - Mr. Heubeck

DATE

2/5/69

SUBJECT

Ltr to S fm GAMBLE dtd 1/27 re situation in Biafra.

ACTION

*Prompt handling is essential. Return basic correspondence with reply. If delayed call telephone extension below.

For appropriate action.

For direct reply. Comeback copy required

XXXX

A response for signature by the

Prepore reply.

Clear with

Prepore o to

Refer to White House request of

Due in S/S by

For your information.

REMARKS

OFFICE OF THE ASST.
SECRETARY - AF

1969 FEB 5 AM 11 43

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

COPIES TO

IO - Mr. Frisbie (w/ltr)
P - Mr. Cheshes (w/ltr)

DOO FEB 2 1969

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George Kelly
SECRETARIAT STAFF

EXT. 4735

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Authority VMD 954503
By MWA Date 10/3/05

18



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 799

PAGE 01 THE HA 00693 241248Z

50
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, INT 06, /144 W
050643

P R 240948Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3535
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
EGEMBASSY BONN 1006
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION GENEVA
RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 225

CONFIDENTIAL THE HAGUE 0693

SUBJ: "LUNS PLAN" FOR NIGERIAN RELIEF

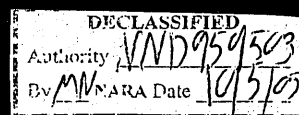
REF: HAGUE 675, 520, 380

1. SUMMARY: MEETING AT MFA FEBRUARY 21 (INVITATION DESCRIBED
HAGUE 675) PRODUCED PROPOSAL BY NETHERLANDS FOR JOINT EFFORT
TO SUPPLEMENT EXISTING AIR BRIDGE TO BIAFRA WITH WATER CORRIDOR
BETWEEN PORT OF DEGEMA AND OGUTA. PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS
(CANADA, U.S.) AT MEETING WERE REQUESTED SOUND OUT THEIR
GOVERNMENTS BY FEBRUARY 25 ON (A) TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL
FEASIBILITY, (B) WILLINGNESS PARTICIPATE, (C) VIEWS AS TO BEST
APPROACH TO BIAFRANS AND FMG, (D) ABILITY TO SEND EXPERT TO

CONFIDENTIAL
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The
Hague
Feb. 69
2/24/69

0302





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 THE HA 00693 241248Z

MEETING AT THE HAGUE FEBRUARY 28 OR SUBSEQUENT MEETING, AND
(E) OPINION ON APPROACH TO ICRC. PARTICIPANTS ASKED TO TREAT PLAN
AS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AT THIS JUNCTURE. END SUMMARY

2. MEETING HOSTED BY MFA DIRECTOR ME/AFRICAN AFFAIRS
HUYDECOPER WAS ATTENDED BY OFFICERS OF EMBASSIES OF
GERMANY, ITALY, BELGIUM, SWEDEN, NORWAY, DENMARK, CANADA,
AND U.S. (LAST TWO AS OBSERVERS

ON GROUNDS SHORT NOTICE).

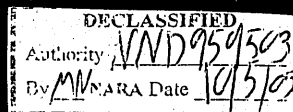
LUXEMBOURG AMBASSADOR OUT OF TOWN BUT TO BE BRIEFED FEBRUARY 24.
HUYDECOPER BEGAN BY CONFIRMING THAT IDEA FOR A JOINT BIAFRA
RELIEF EFFORT BY INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS WAS HATCHED IN VAGUEST
WAY BY LUNS DURING VISIT TO ADDIS END JANUARY. NETHERLANDS
EMBASSIES IN ALL ABOVE CAPITALS EXCEPT WASHINGTON AND OTTAWA
(SINCE ORIGINAL IDEA WAS FOR EUROPEAN EFFORT) THEN ASKED AND RE-
CEIVED EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN "DOING SOMETHING TOGETHER."
ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT THIS WEEK INFORMED GON THAT EMPEROR "LOOK-
ING FORWARD TO PROPOSALS", WHICH MFA CONSIDERS SUFFICIENT
BASIS TO GO AHEAD. GON EXPERTS ESTIMATE MINIMUM NEED IS TO
DOUBLE PRESENT RELIEF FLOW OF 500 TONS PER DAY TO BIAFRA. OF
FOUR POSSIBILITIES CONSIDERED--SECOND AIRFIELD, NEW AIRLIFT USING
EXISTING FIELD (IF POSSIBLE WITH DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS), ROAD CORRIDOR,
AND WATER CORRIDOR--DUTCH EXPERTS LEAN TOWARD LAST ON GROUNDS
IT EASIER TO CROSS FIGHTING LINES BY WATER THAN BY ROAD AND
SURFACE ROUTE ALLOWS LARGER QUANTITIES AND MEETS FMG CONCERN THAT
MORE FLIGHTS TO BIAFRA WOULD PROVIDE GREATER OPPORTUNITY FOR
ARMS IMPORTS.

3. MFA BELIEVES THERE GROUNDS HOPE BOTH SIDES MIGHT AGREE
ON WATER CORRIDOR. HUYDECOPER POINTED TO PAGES 9-11
OF RECENT FMG WHITE PAPER ENTITLED "FEDERAL PEACE EFFORTS",
WHICH NOTES BIAFRAN PROPOSAL FOR WATER CORRIDOR FROM
BURUTU TO OGUTA AND FMG PROPOSAL FOR WATER-LAND CORRIDOR
WARRI-SAPELE-ASABA-OGUTA. HE ALSO PROVIDED COPY OF
EXTRACT FROM RECENT NOTE FROM IVORY COAST FONOFF RESPONDING
TO NETHERLANDS EMBASSY REQUEST THAT BIAFRANS BE URGED AGREE TO
OPENING SURFACE CORRIDOR (HAGUE 380). THIS READS: "IN RESPONSE,
MINISTER INFORMS AMBASSADOR THAT COL. OJUKWU PROPOSES A MARITIME
CORRIDOR AND AN AIRFIELD SPECIALLY FITTED FOR THOSE WHO WISH
MAKE DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. FOR WELL-KNOWN REASONS, COL. OJUKWU MAIN-
TAINS HIS REFUSAL TO RECEIVE SUPPLIES WHICH TRANSIT LAGOS OR

CONFIDENTIAL

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0303





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 03 THE HA 00693 241248Z

CROSS REGIONS CONTROLLED BY FEDERAL NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT." (FRENCH TEXT POUCHED AF/AFW.) NOTE ADMITTEDLY UNCLEAR, HUYDECOPER COMMENTED, SINCE OJUKWU KNOWS MARITIME CORRIDOR WOULD HAVE TO CROSS FMG-HELD TERRITORY, BUT INDICATES POSSIBILITY ROOM FOR DISCUSSION.

4. EXPERIENCED DUTCH ENGINEERING FIRM CONSULTED BY MFA BELIEVES WATER ROUTE WARRI-OGUTA UNUSABLE EXCEPT AT HIGH WATER, AND ONLY FEASIBLE ROUTE FROM SEA TO OGUTA (MENTIONED AS ACCEPTABLE TERMINAL POINT BY BOTH SIDES PER FMG WHITE PAPER) IS FROM DEGEMA VIA ORASHI RIVER (EGBEMA, OKARKI, MBIAMA, AND KREIGANI) MFA SAYS SHELL OIL PEOPLE IN NIGERIA COULD SURVEY RIVER DEPTH WITHIN SEVERAL DAYS IN ORDER TO PERMIT DETERMINATION OF TYPE OF RIVER CRAFT NEEDED. DUTCH CONCEPT OF OPERATION IS TO PLACE 5-6000 TON DEPOT SHIP AT DEGEMA UNDER ICRC GUARANTEE AND TRANSFER THERE TO RIVER CRAFT WHICH WOULD GO UPRIVER "UNDER ICRC BOND", I.E. WITH GUARANTEE NEVER TOUCHED BY FMG.

5. MFA'S MOST OPTIMISTIC ESTIMATE OF MINIMUM COST OF OPERATION IS 500,000 GULDERS (138,000) PER MONTH ON BASIS LEASE OF 5-6,000 TON DEPOT SHIP AND 20 100-TON RIVER BARGES STANDARD TO THAT AREA. NETH FOCUSING NOW ONLY ON INFRA-STRUCTURE, BUT ASSUMES PARTICIPANTS IN PLAN MIGHT ALSO BE CALLED ON TO UNDERWRITE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL RELIEF SUPPLIES SHOULD EXISTING FLOWS BE INADEQUATE TO KEEP PIPELINE FULL.

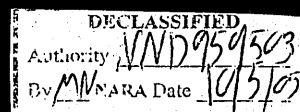
6. DUTCH HAVE OPEN MIND AS TO HOW TO APPROACH FMG AND BIAFRANS AND INVITE OPINIONS FROM PROSPECTIVE PARTNERS. HUYDECOPER SUGGESTED CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO APPROACH VIA EMPEROR HAILE SELASSIE, OAU, OR ICRC, OR TO COORDINATED DIRECT APPROACH BY POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS. HE ALSO SEES POSSIBLE PROBLEM IN GETTING COOPERATION OF ICRC, WHICH HE UNDERSTANDS OPTED AT MEETING IN GENEVA FEBRUARY 17 FOR PRESSURING FMG AND BIAFRANS AGREE TO EXPANDED AIR BRIDGE INCLUDING DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. HUYDECOPER STRESSED NEED FOR SPEED (PARTICULARLY IF ICRC COOPERATION TO BE OBTAINED) AND SECRECY UNTIL APPROACH COULD BE MADE TO PARTIES TO CONFLICT. AT SAME TIME, HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR GOVERNMENTS TO CONSULT NATIONAL RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS ON QUESTION OF ICRC COOPERATION.

7. HUYDECOPER REQUESTED ALL ABOVE BE REPORTED TO CAPITALS WITH REQUEST FOR PRELIMINARY GUIDANCE BY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25. HE

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 04 THE HA 00693 241248Z

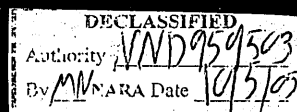
HAS ASKED EMBASSY REPS TO MEET WITH HIM AGAIN ON FEBRUARY 28 AND WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW BY 25TH IF CAPITALS IN POSITION SEND EXPERT THIS OR SUBSEQUENT MEETING. ON FEB 22, MFA INFORMED US THAT ACTING ICRC PRESIDENT, PROF. FREYMOND, WILLING ATTEND FEB 28 MEETING.

8. COMMENT: ADDITIONAL REASON FOR MFA'S HASTE IN CALLING FIRST MEETING WAS TO HAVE IT PRECEDE FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEBATE IN SECOND CHAMBER FEB 25-26, DURING WHICH NIGERIA EXPECTED TO BE ONE OF MOST TROUBLESOME ISSUES FOR LUNS.

GP-3. TYLER

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(11)



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 551

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00187 242146Z

81
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, JPM 04, H 03, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03,
AID 28, UPW 01, E 15, DOT 12, 177 W

053732

R 241515Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2366
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
CINCSRIKE
DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL LIBREVILLE 187

CITE SICR D-CDB 21909

SUBJ BIAFRAN AIRLIFT

1. WOULD APPEAR DCAR F-BRHQ FLEW NIGHT FEB 22-23 PRESUMABLY
WITH RELIEF SUPPLIES.

2. DC-6 DESCRIBED PARA 6 LIBREVILLE 144 AND PARA 3
LIBREVILLE 178 BEARS BELGIAN REG OO-HEX.
AIRCRAFT PILOT HAS TOLD DR CATCHPOOL PLANE BEING USED
FLY BIAFRA 200 TONS IRISH RELIEF SUPPLIES STOCKPILED
LIBREVILLE.

3. AIRCRAFT DESCRIBED PARA 4 LIBREVILLE 178 BEARS
FRENCH REG F-BICT GP 3 BANE

CONFIDENTIAL

46

Libreville 187
2-24-69

0306

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Authority VMD 959503
By MWA Date 10/5/05

37



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 00520 241927Z

52
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, HI 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, CAB 09, COM 08, DOT 12, E 15,

SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, RSR 01, /165 W

052980

R 241645Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3655
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON 191
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABIDJAN 520

SUBJECT: BIAFRAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF

1. DR. RADEBAUGH OF BARTON'S GROUP APPROACHED EMBASSY TODAY REQUESTING DEPARTMENT'S HELP IN LOCATING AN AIRCRAFT TO LIFT PLANELOAD OF SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT FROM NEW YORK FOR BIAFRAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF PROGRAM HERE. RADEBAUGH SAID ITEMS WHICH HELD UP BY NEW YORK DOCK STRIKE ARE URGENTLY NEEDED FOR COCODY SHELTER WHICH NOW EXPECTED TO OPEN THIS WEEK WITH ARRIVAL OF A NEW GROUP OF 50 BIAFRAN CHILDREN. SEVERAL GROUPS OF 50 CHILDREN ARE EXPECTED TO COME IN WEEKLY THEREAFTER. ACCORDING TO RADEBAUGH, BARTON HAS FUNDS TO PAY FOR PLANE CHARTER BUT THUS FAR HAS FOUND NO CARRIER WHO COULD PROVIDE PLANE AVAILABLE AIRCRAFT APPARENTLY PREEMPTED BY COMMERCIAL SHIPPERS. HE DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER BARTON HAS MADE SIMILAR REQUEST TO DEPARTMENT. FOLLOWING IS BARTON'S ADDRESS:

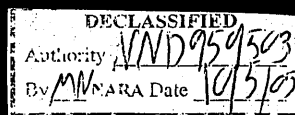
EDWIN BARTON, BARD HALL, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, N.Y.
TELEPHONE: 212-795-5212

2. IN ADDITION TO HIMSELF (HE RETURNS TO U.S. NEXT WEEK), RADEBAUGH SAID AMERICAN MEDICAL PERSONNEL FROM BARTON'S GROUP

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46

0307





Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 ABIDUA 00520 241927Z

NOW IN IVORY COAST CONSISTS OF THREE DOCTORS AND A NURSE. HE NOTED THAT AT MAXIMUM IVORY COAST WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF 1600 CHILDREN INSTEAD OF THE 5000 FIRST MENTIONED BY IVORIAN RED CROSS. PROGRESS ON THE REMAINING SHELTERS IS SLOW (GRAND BASSAM AND YAMOUSSOUKRO ARE HARDLY STARTED) AND COSTS ARE HIGH. HE ESTIMATED THAT ANNUAL COST OF THE PROGRAM WHEN ALL FACILITIES IN USE WOULD RUN TO AS MUCH AS \$1 MILLION A YEAR AND SAID BARTON NOW LAUNCHING PUBLICITY EFFORT IN U.S. TO RAISE ADDITIONAL FUNDS. MORGAN.

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MW/ARA
Date	10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
TR POL 15-1 US/NIXON
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 384

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01627 231125Z

22
ACTION SS 70

INFO SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCO 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, /070 W
----- 047068

O P 231049Z FEB 69 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5121
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USUN NY 862

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1627

LIMDIS

SUBJ: NIGERIA: PRESIDENTIAL LETTER TO GOWON

REF: STATE 28284 AND 28297

1. I DELIVERED PRESIDENTIAL LETTER AND PRESS STATEMENT AT 1000 LOCAL TODAY. AFTER READING LETTER VERY CAREFULLY, GOWON SAID IT QTE VERY GOOD UNQTE AND ADDED THAT FMG WOULD BE GLAD TO COOPERATE WITH FERGUSON. HE INDICATED THAT IN FMG VIEW FIRST PRIORITY SHOULD BE TO PRESS FOR REBEL ACCEPTANCE OF OBILAGO PROPOSAL. GOWON SAID IF HE HAD OTHER SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR FACILITATING RELIEF HE WOULD WRITE TO PRESIDENT.

2. COMMENT: GOWON WAS OBVIOUSLY GREATLY RELIEVED BY PENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH PRESIDENT'S LETTER WHICH HE TOOK AS ASSURANCE NO CHANGE IN USG POLITICAL POLICY RE NIGERIAN SITUATION.

3. GOWON TOOK LEAD IN RELAXED CONVERSATION FOR ABOUT

HALF HOUR AFTER COMMENTING ON LETTER. HE SAID HE HAD TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF RECENT VISITS TO LIBERATED AREAS TO STRESS ONCE AGAIN TO TROOPS AND CIVILIANS THAT THEY MUST REMEMBER THAT IBOS ARE BROTHERS AND MUST BE

CONFIDENTIAL

25

Page 1637
8-23-69

0309

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By MWA Date 10/5/05



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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 01627 231125Z

TREATED ACCORDINGLY. HE HAD BEEN HEARTENED BY RESPONSE. HE REITERATED HIS INTENTION TO ENSURE FMG COOPERATION IN RELIEF ACTIVITIES AND REVIVED AN EARLIER IDEA THAT ULI AIRSTRIP WHEN CAPTURED BY FMG WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR RELIEF PURPOSES AS WAS NOW PROPOSED FOR OBILAGO.

4. FOLLOWING RECEIPT STATE 28284, DCM PURSUED EXTAFF AND BY 2300 LOCAL HAD ARRANGED TODAY'S APPOINTMENT. WHEN STATE 28297 SUBSEQUENTLY ARRIVED ABOUT MIDNIGHT, EXTAFF APPROACHED AGAIN WITH SUGGESTION MEETING WITH GOWON TAKE PLACE THEN. EXTAFF OPINED MIDDLE OF NIGHT APPOINTMENT UNNECESSARY.
GP-3 MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

25

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Date	10/3/05

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Geographic

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NEA 8

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OTHER AGENCIES

WH 10 10
CIA 1
DOD 1
USIA 4 1
NSA 1

Other

ACDA 5
AID/EXSEC 3
AA/AFR2
AA/VN 2
AA/EA 3
AA/NESA 2

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VP 1
AEC 3
AGR 3
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48

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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ACTION: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LAGOS
Amembassy LONDON
Amembassy GENEVA

STATE

1. VOA report states that Ojukwu QUOTE turned down flatly UNQUOTE Lowenstein proposal. Reuters report makes no mention of Biafran rejection.
2. Please endeavor confirm what Arikpo actually said or, if he stated Biafra had rejected proposal, what is basis for this assertion.

end.

ROGERS

Drafted by:
Nigeria Task Force: RMelbourne

Tel. Ext.
2619

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

Nigeria Task Force: RMelbourne

Clearances:

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FORM DS-322
8-65

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy ^{LAGOS}~~LAGOS~~ IMMEDIATE

Info:

STATE

LIMDIS

Ambassador Iyalla at 2 p.m. was given by Assistant Secretary Palmer signed original of President's letter to General Gowon. At that time he was informed of imminent possibility of appointment of Relief Coordinator. Projected purely humanitarian mandate of coordinator was fully explained.

ROGERS

Drafted by: a
Nigeria Task Force - RMelbourneTel. Ext.
2619Telegraphic transmission and Nigeria Task Force: RMelbourne
classification approved by: ~~AFCKMXXBETXXX~~ Rm

Clearances:

AF - Mr. Palmer (subs) RmWhite House - R Morris Rm

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8-65

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE

Info

INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY ✓
 Amembassy LONDON PRIORITY ✓
 Amembassy PARIS PRIORITY ✓
 US Mission GENEVA PRIORITY ✓
 USUN ✓

STATE

SUBJECT: Nigeria: Presidential Statement Naming Special Coordinator on Relief

1. Following is text of Presidential statement issued February 22:

QUOTE I know that I speak for all Americans in expressing this nation's deep anguish for the terrible human suffering in the Nigerian civil war. It is tragic enough to watch a military conflict between peoples who once lived together in peace and developing prosperity. But that tragedy has been compounded, and the conscience of the world engaged by the starvation threatening millions of innocent civilians on both sides of the battle. ✓

Immediately after taking office, I directed an urgent and comprehensive review of the relief situation. The purpose was to examine every possibility to enlarge and expedite the flow of relief. This very complex problem will require continuing study. I am announcing, however, the following initial conclusions of the review:

(1) The Red Cross and the Voluntary Agencies are now feeding nearly one million people in areas of the war zone controlled by the Federal Military Government of Nigeria. They fully expect the numbers will

Drafted by: AF/W - RPSmith:chg:2/22/69

Tel. Ext. 6402

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF - Mr. Palmer

Clearances

S/S - Mr. Brown ✓ White House - R. Morris ✓
 U - The Under Secretary (draft) ✓

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POL 15-1US/ NIXON
TR POL 37-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

22 Feb 69 20 56Z

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(21)



POL 27-9 Biafra Nigeria
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

*LAGOS 1622
2-22-69*

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 01622 221448Z

51
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, SR 01,

ORM 03, AID 28, E 15, SCSE 00, SCA 01, UPW 01, H 02, RSR 01, I 10 W

R 221220Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5118
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA UNN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA UNN
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY UNN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE UNN
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Blaker, AF

UNCLAS LAGOS 1622

Privacy 7512-059

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN PRESS ROUNDUP - FEBRUARY 21 AND 22

1. BRITISH FONMIN STATEMENT. MORNING POST OF FEBRUARY 21
HEADLINED BRITISH FONMIN STEWART STATEMENT THAT UK CONTINUED
SUPPORT UNITED NIGERIA AND OPPOSED BIAFRAN SECESSION. TIMES,
PLAYING STORY ON PAGE FOUR, NOTED STEWART BLAMED OJUKWU FOR
NOT ALLOWING ADEQUATE FLOW RELIEF SUPPLIES, PARTICULARLY TO
CIVILIANS.

2. AWO FINANCIAL SPEECH. LEADING LAGOS DAILIES FRONT-PAGED
AWO SPEECH TO MEETING OF ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE,
INDUSTRY AND MINES ON FEBRUARY 20, IN WHICH HE UNDERLINED
NEED FOR NIGERIAN "ECONOMIC FREEDOM" AND SAID DURING WAR
FMG WOULD "CONTINUE TO IMPOSE STRINGENT FINANCIAL DISCIPLINE
ON ITSELF -- BOTH ON DOMESTIC AND EXTERNAL FRONTS. AWO
SPOKE HOPEFULLY OF NIGERIAN ACHIEVING SELF-SUSTAINED ECONOMIC
GROWTH "WITHIN THE NEXT TWO DECADES."

(1)

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 01622 221448Z

EM NIGERIA AND THE U.S. LAGOS PAPERS FEBRUARY 21 CARRIED TWO STORIES RELATING TO U.S.: (1) THAT EIGHT AMERICAN PILOTS FOR RELIEF FLIGHTS BASED ON SAO TOME HAD WALKED OUT WHEN REFUSED DANGER PAY, AND (2) STORY QUOTING AFRO-AMERICAN ARTICLE OF FEBRUARY 4 CALLING FOR USG SUPPORT OF FMG AND CRITICIZING ACTIVITIES OF PRO-BIAFRA "LOBBY" IN THE U.S. NEW NIGERIAN COMMENTED ADVERSELY ON FIRST STORY IN FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL IN WHICH U.S. PILOTS AGAIN CALLED "MERCENARIES."

4. FMG RELIEF OFFER. ON FEBRUARY 22 ALL LAGOS PAPERS, AND IBADAN SKETCH, PLAYED UP FMG OFFER LET RELIEF SUPPLIES BE FLOWN TO OBILAGU AIRPORT, THENCE BY ROAD, TO REBELS. (OBILAGU IS APPROXIMATELY 75 MILES NORTHEAST OF PORT HARCOURT, AND HAS AIRSTRIPE MADE BY REBELS FROM TARMAC ROAD. AIRSTRIPE CAPTURED LAST YEAR BY FMG.) PAPERS CONNECT FMG PROPOSAL WITH VISITS BY U.S. CONGRESSMAN LOWENSTEIN TO NIGERIA AND ETHIOPIA. FLIGHTS WOULD BE IN DAYLIGHT ONLY, ACCORDING FMG COMMISSIONER EXTAFF ARIKPO, IN MAKING ANNOUNCEMENT IN ADDIS FEBRUARY 21. MATHEWS

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

*Cable Ababa 756
9-22-69*

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 00756 221238Z

43
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00,
JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, AID 28,
SR 01, ORM 03, CCO 00, RSR 01, /132 W

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Q 221100Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8527
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 501

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 756 SECTION ONE OF THREE

DEPT PASS VOA

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: TRANSCRIPT OF ARIKPO PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: ADDIS 755

FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT Q ANDU AT ARIKPO PRESS CONFERENCE ADDIS
FEB 21 (UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED):

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT

Q. DID YOU BRING ANY MESSAGE TO ADDIS ?

A. YES. I BROUGHT MESSAGE FROM GEN. GOWON TO HIM FIRST TO
TO EXPRESS INTERNAL GREETINGS AND SECOND TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR
EMPEROR'S CONTINUED INTEREST IN AFFAIRS NIGERIA.

Q. GENERAL SITUATION OF NIGERIA?

A. YES. FIGHTING STILL GOING ON ALTHOUGH THERE ARE EFFORTS FIND
ALTERNATIVE TO COMPLETE MILITARY VICTORY. FIGHTING IS STILL GOING ON
AND FEDERAL FORCES STILL MAKING GRADUAL PROGRESS AND
AREA UNDER REBEL CONTROL NOW REDUCED TO ABOUT 2700 SQUARE MILES

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PAGE 02 ADDIS 00756 221238Z

FROM ORIGINAL 29,000 SQUARE MILES.

Q. REACTION OF FWG ON LAST PROPOSAL RE PARTICIPATION OF UN IN CRISES?

A. REACTION FMG WILL BE POSITIVE "NO". THIS INTERNAL AFFAIRS NIGERIA, AND NIGERIA VOLUNTARILY AGREES TRY SOLVE PROBLEM WITH ASSISTANCE OF OAU. OAU IS STILL DOING ALL IT CAN TO ASSIST IN FINDING SOLUTION AND WE DO NOT BELIEVE THERE ANY GROUND WHATSOEVER FOR TAKING MATTER OUT OF HANDS OAU.

Q. SIR, YOU TALKED ABOUT EFFORTS FIND ALTERNATIVE TO COMPLETE MILITARY. ANY INDICATIONS SO FAR OF FINDING THESE ALTERNATIVE MEANS?

A. WELL IN LAST TWELVE MONTHS WE HAVE HAD SERIES OF MEETINGS AIMED AT FINDING NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. WE NOT HAD ANY MARKED SUCCESS. BUT OUR FRIENDS IN OAU ARE NOT TIRED OF TRYING AND THEY INTEND TO GO ON TRYING.

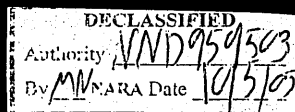
Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, IN DISPATCHES OF AGENCIES LAST 24 HOURS WE HEARD THAT HIS EXCELLENCY, MINISTER OF FINANCE, CHIEF AWALU, TOLD PRESS THAT FMG IS GOING OR IS ASSISTING ALL ITS RESOURCES TO BLOW FINAL VICTORY. DOES THIS NOT CONTRADICT NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT PRINCIPLE WHICH FMG HAS DECLARED?

A. NOT AT ALL. IT DOES NOT CONTRADICT. FMG IS DETERMINED FIND SOLUTION AND WE CAN REGARD THIS AS OPTION OF FMG. WE CANNOT SOLVE PROBLEM BY NEGOTIATIONS, THEN MUST SOLVE BY MILITARY SOLUTION. AND THIS IS PRECISELY WHAT CHIEF AWALU MEANS. ALREADY WE HAVE PEOPLE CRITICIZING US FOR ALLOWING WAR TO GO FOR TOO LONG MERELY BECAUSE AT VARIOUS STAGES WE HAVE STOPPED IN HOPE. BUT COUNSEL WILL PREVAIL AND WE WILL FIND SOLUTION THROUGH DISCUSSIONS.

WE STILL BELIEVE IN THAT BUT IN ALTERNATIVE WE ARE PREPARED CARRY WAR TO ITS LOGICAL CONCLUSION.

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PAGE 03 ADDIS 00756 221238Z

Q. SIR, THERE HAVE BEEN SOME MESSAGES GOING ON OAU CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE AND THE MESSAGE YOU MENTIONED EARLIER... IS THERE ANY PROPOSAL OF MEETING OF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE?

A. YES. MY MESSAGE TO EMPEROR INDICATED VERY CLEARLY THAT GEN. GOWON IS WILLING TO ATTEND ANY MEETING OF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE AND I BELIEVE DISCUSSIONS ARE NOW GOING ON AS TO DATE AND VENUE. THINK ALL MEMBERS OF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ARE AGREED THEY SHOULD MEET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO MAKE ANOTHER EFFORT AT SOLUTION.

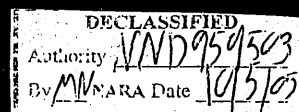
Q. POSSIBLE SAY ANYTHING ABOUT FUTURE PLANS FOR FMG -- I MEAN EASTERN REGION IN FUTURE OF UNITED NIGERIA? WHAT IS IDEA ABOUT POSITION, SIR?

A. WELL AS YOU ALL KNOW, COUNTRY NOW DIVIDED INTO TWELVE STATES, ONE OF WHICH EAST CEGAL STATE, IS POPULATED BY IBOS AND IN THIS AREA THAT'S WHERE WE HAVE THE 2,700 SQUARE MILES UNDER REBEL CONTROL STILL

OUR PLANS ARE THAT AS SOON AS HOSTILITIES ENDED WE WILL ARRANGE CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE AT WHICH REPRESENTATIVES ALL TWELVE GROUPS WILL MEET TO AGREE ON FORM OF FUTURE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THEM. WE HAVE HAD BANDIED AROUND WORDS "FEDERATION" AND "CONFEDERATION" AND "CUSTOMS

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 00756 222323Z

84

ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00,

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, AID 28,

SR 01, ORM 03, CCO 00, RSR 01, SCSE 00, SCA 01, UPW 01, MC 01, ACDA 16,

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8528

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

USUN NEW YORK 502

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 756 SECTION TWO OF THREE

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TO TEXT LINES 44, 45, 46, AND 47)

DEPT PASS VOA

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: TRANSCRIPT OF ARIKPO PRESS CONFERENCE

UNION", ETC. WE BELIEVE IT IS FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF TWELVE STATES -- TWELVE GROUPS IN NIGERIA -- TO DECIDE FORM OF FUTURE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THEMSELVES. WE ALSO -- IN ECONOMIC, PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL SPHERES WE HAVE PLANS FOR RECONSTRUCTION, FOR REHABILITATION AND FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT. Q. WHEN DO YOU ELECT REPRESENTATIVES?

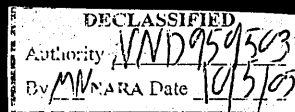
A. IN EACH OF TWELVE STATES THERE IS GOVERNMENT AND THESE GOVT ARE ALL FUNCTIONING NORMALLY. THEY CERTAINLY WILL HAVE SOME MEANS OF SELECTING REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATES WHICH THEY GOVERN. WHETHER IT'S

GOING TO BE IN FORM OF ELECTION OR SERIES OF ELECTORAL COLLEGES OR ARRANGEMENT

WHEREBY VARIOUS INTERESTS IN RESPECTIVE STATES ARE CHOSEN WILL BE LEFT TO PEOPLE TO DECIDE.

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 ADDIS 00756 222323Z

Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, WHAT IS POSITION OF BRITIAN AT PRESENT SO FAR AS CONTINOUS SUPPLY OF ARMS TO NIGERIA FOR SETTLEMENT OF THIS DISPUTE?

A. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS STATED VERY CLEARLY THAT IT IS COMMITTED TO CONTINUE TO SEND ARMS TO FMG BECAUSE IT BELIEVES IN CONTINUATION OF UNITED NIGERIA AND BECAUSE BRPIAN HAS BEEN NIGERIA'S TRADITIONAL SUPPLIER OF ARMS. TO REFUSE TO SUPPLY ARMS TO FMG WOULD AMOUNT TO ACT OF HOSTILITY NOT JUST UNFRIENDLY ACT BUT ACT OF HOSTILITY. AND STAND OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN QUITE CLEARMN THIS. IT HAS NOT CHANGED. Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, THERE HAVE BEEN ALLEGATIONS OF FRANC E'S BACKING OF EASTERN REGIONS REBELLION AND ARMS STOCKPILE WHICH IS ALLEGED BE IN BIAFRAN HANDS. THIS SUPPOSED TO HAVSCOME FROM SOURCES WHICH ARE BACKED BY FRANCE. HOW FAR IS THIS SUBSTANTIATED?

A. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE EVIDENCE OF FRENCH INVOLVEMENT IN THE CRISIS IN NIGERIA THROUGH PRIVATE FRENCH BUSINESS INTERESTS OR THE FRENCHLEGION OR THE GOVERNMENT -- DIFFICULT SAY VERY PRECISELY, BUT THERE ISN'T ANY DOUBT AT ALL THAT REBELS HAVE BEEN RECEIVING THEIR SUPPLY OF ARMS THROUGH LIBREVILLE CAPITAL OF GABON, FROM FRANCE AND MAINLY FROM FRANCE.

Q. HOW IS THE STAND OF RUSSIA TO NIGERIA? THE SUPPLY OF ARMS FROM RUSSIA?

A. OH YES, WE STILL BUY ARMS FROM RUSSIA JUST AS WE BUY FROM BRITAIN.

Q. HOW MUCH AID DID YOU RECEIVE FROM RUSSIA?

A. WE DIN'T GET ANY AID FROM ANYBODY. WELL IT'S VERY UNFORTUNATE WHEN PEOPLE USE THE WORD SUPPLY. THEY IMAGINE THAT THESE ARE GIFTS. WE DON'T

GET AID FROM ANYBODY IN WORLD. WE PAY FOR --

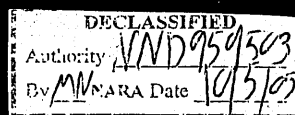
WE BUY THESE ARMS. WHEN WE HEJ WORD "SUPPLY" IN NIGERIA, WE MEAN BUY.

WE BUY FROM BRITAIN; WE BUY FROM RUSSIA; WE BUY FROM ANY COUNTRY WHICH IS WILLING SELL TO US. WE DON'T GET ANYTHING FREE FROM ANY COUNTRY.

Q. WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT THE POSITION OF SOVIET UNION TO

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PAGE 03 ADDIS 00756 222323Z

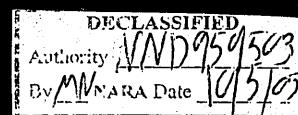
NIGERIAN CRISIS?

A. SOVIET UNION HAS BEEN VERY CLEAR IN ITS STAND-- IT DOES NOT RELIEVE IN FRAGMENTATION OF ANY COUNTRY. IT DOES NOT SUPPORT SITUATION IN NIGERIA OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY, AND IT'S BEEN QUITE CONSTANT FOR SUPPORT OF CONTINUANCE OF PRESERVATION OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF NIGERIA. Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, WHAT IS POSITION OF THE NIGERIAN RED CROSS AS FAR AS RELIEF OF LIBERATED AREAS?

A NIGERIAN RED CROSS IS STRENGTHENING ALL ITS RESOURCES TOGETHER WITH ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY FMG IN ASSISTING TO BRING RELIEF AND IN REHABILITATING CIVILIANS WHO ARE IN LIBERATED AREAS OF EAST CENTRAL STATE. I THINK I SHOULD REPEAT THIS-- THAT NIGERIAN RED CROSS GIVES RELIEF TO ALL INCLUDING IBOS WHO ARE IN AREA UNDER CENTRAL CONTROL, WITHOUT ANY DISTINCTION OF TRIBE OR RELIGION.

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 111

PAGE 01 ADDIS 00756 221429Z

51
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00,
CCO 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,
AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCSE 00, SCA 01, UPW 01, RSR 01, /134 W
----- 044306

O 221100Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8529
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGBK
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 502

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 756 SECTION THREE OF THREE

DEPT PASS VOA

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: TRANSCRIPT OF ARIKPO PRESS CONFERENCE

Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, THE INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER TEAM WHICH HAS BEEN TOURING NIGERIA HAS STATED THEY COULDN'T FIND ANY PROOF OF GENOCIDE ON PART OF FEDERAL TROOPS. HOW FAR WERE THEY FREE IN MOVING ABOUT WITHIN FEDERAL TERRITORY AND SECESSION TERRITORY?

A. INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER TEAM HAS ALWAYS BEEN FREE TO GO TO ANY PART OF COUNTRY--TO WAR FRONTS, TO AREAS OUTSIDE FIGHTING ZONES-- WHERE THEY WANT TO VISIT. AS FAR AS FMG IS CONCERNED THERE HAVE BEEN NO

RESTRICTIONS OF ANY KIND ON THEIR MOVEMENTS.

Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, WAS THIS NIGERIAN QUESTION RAISED TO ANY EXTENT DURING U MINISTER'S CONFERENCE?

A. NO, NIGERIAN QUESTION IS PECULIARLY WITHIN CONTROL OF HEADS OF STATE, AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DOESN'T DISCUSS NIGERIAN SITUATION AT ALL-- MAYBE AN OCCASIONAL MENTION BUT THIS IS PECULIARLY WITHIN ORBIT OF HEADS OF STATE.

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27

PO 27-9 B. J. P. M. P. M.

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MVA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 ADDIS 00756 221429Z

Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, SEEING THAT UNITED NATIONS IS ASSOCIATION OF SOVEREIGN STATES, WHAT WOULD BE ACTUAL JOB OF NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT-THE UNITED NATIONS TO TRY TO INTERVENE IN THIS CRISIS? ANY COMMENTS ON THIS?

A. ACTUALLY, I ANSWERED THAT QUESTION EARLIER. BUT I WILL REPEAT. ATTITUDE OF FMG WILL BE DEFINITELY NO TO UNITED NATIONS.

Q. THERE HAVE RECENTLY BEEN NUMBER OF AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL VISITORS IN NIGERIA. WOULD COMMENT ON WHETHER YOU FEEL THIS HAS HAD ANY GOOD EFFECT ON SITUATION?

A. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT HAS HAD ANY GOOD EFFECT ON SITUATION BUT I THINK THAT IT'S BEEN -- I THINK AMERICANS HAVE LEARNED SOMETHING ABOUT NIGERIA. THEIR INTERPRETATIONS OR IMPRESSIONS ARE VARIED. WE DON'T MIND THAT. THEY ARE ENTIRELY FREE TO THEIR RESPECTIVE OPINIONS. BUT I BELIEVE THEY HAVE GIVEN US OPPORTUNITY OF LETTING THEM KNOW WHAT WE FEEL AND THEY WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY OF LETTING THEM KNOW WHAT WE FEEL AND THEY WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY OF SEEING WHAT GOES ON IN NIGERIA. SO ON WHILE IT'S BEEN GOOD THING. WHAT USE THEY MAKE OF THIS IS ENTIRELY UP TO THEM.

Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, WHAT IS POSITION OF FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY -- WEST GERMANY -- AS REGARDS BREAK-AWAY REGION OF BIAFRA AND FMG?

A. FRG OR WEST GERMANY RECOGNIZES ONLY ONE GOV AND THAT IS EMG. OUR RELATIONS ARE AS CORDIAL AS EVER WITHOUGH UNTIL QUITE RECENTLY WE HAVE HAD VERY, VERY POOR PRESS. VERY HOSTILE PRESS. IN WEST GERMANY AND WE HAD REASON BELIEVE THERE HAS BEEN SOME INDIVIDUAL MEDDLING AND INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE TO REBELS. WE ARE SATISFIED THAT FRG RECOGNIZES ONLY FMG AND QUITE RECENTLY COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO WE HAVE OCCASION OF OPENING SECOND LAGOS BRIDGE WHICH WAS BUILT WITH CONSIDERABLE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM FRG AND ON THAT OCCASION FRG DEP. MIN FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WAS OUR GUEST AND I BELIEVE HE WAS MOST FAVORABLY IMPRESSED. HE CERTAINLY LEFT US WITH VERY GOOD FEELING ABOUT VIEWS OF GERMANY TOWARD NIGERIA.

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MN NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 03 ADDIS 00756 221429Z

Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, DID GENERAL GOWON SUGGEST ANY SPECIFIC PEACE PROPOSALS IN HIS MESSAGE TO EMPEROR ... THAT OAU CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MIGHT CONSIDER?

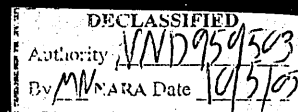
A. NO, WE HAVE MADE OUR POSITION VERY CLEAR BUT ONE OF MATTERS WHICH HAS CONCERNED OAU CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE AND HIM IN PARTICULAR HAS BEEN QUESTION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO INNOCENT VICTIMS OF CIVIL WAR AND THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL PROPOSALS, AND MOST RECENT OF THESE, WHICH GEN. GOWON WAS INFORMED RECEIVED BLESSING OF EMPEROR, FORMED PART OF MESSAGE WHICH I TOOK TO HIM. BRIEFLY, IT'S THAT WE COULD HAVE SIMPLIFIED AIR LIFT CARRIED OUT IN DAYLIGHT BY ALL RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS WHEREVER THEY MAY BE BASED BUT ALL FLYING INTO AN AIR STRIP WHICH IS NOW UNDER FEDERAL CONTROL IN PLACE CALL OBLAGO ABOUT WHICH MANY OF YOU WOULD HAVE HEARD. QUITE A LOT OF DISCUSSIONS IN PAST. PROPOSALS ARE SIMPLY THAT FMG WILL SURRENDER USE OBLATO AIRSTRIP TO RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL INSPECTION. SO THAT WHETHER IT BE ICRC OR CARITAS INTERNATIONAL OR THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES WHETHER THEY FLY FROM LIBREVILLE OR SAO TOURE OR SANTA ISABEL THEY WILL ALL FLY IN DAYLIGHT AND LAND THEIR CARGO AT OBLAGO, WHERE IT WILL BE INSPECTED BY INTERNATIONAL TEAM CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF OAU AND ANY OTHER ONE OR TWO COUNTRIES AGREED BY BOTH SIDES AND FROM THIS AIRSTRIP FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES WILL BE TAKEN IN LORRIES INTO AREAS STILL UNDER REBEL CONTROL. NOW THIS PROPOSAL WAS MADE TO FMG QUITE RECENTLY AND FEDERAL GOVT HAS ACCEPTED PROPOSAL AND HAD PLEASURE OF INFORMING HIM THAT WE ARE READY AND WILLING TO GO AHEAD WITH IT AND THAT AS SOON AS HE RECEIVES FAVORABLE REPLY FROM OTHER SIDES HE CAN ORGANIZE INTERNATIONAL TEAM OF INSPECTORS SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS COULD GO AHEAD AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE.

Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, I AM TOTALLY IN FAVOR OF FACT THAT NIGERIAN CRISIS IS INTERNAL AFFAIR. IT'S AFRICAN AFFAIRS AND SHOULD BE SETTLED WITHIN AFRICAN CONTEXT? BUT WAR HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR 19 MONTHS NOW AND DESPITE CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF OAU AND MUCH TALK HERE AND THERE, SITUATION HAS NOT REACHED POLITICAL END. WHAT DO YOU SEE AS POSSIBLE?

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21

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 04 ADDIS 00756 221429Z

BASIS ON WHICH THERE COULD BE SOME POLITICAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN REBELS AND FMG?

A. BASIC ISSUE IS THAT OF ONE NIGERIA. ONCE THERE IS AGREEMENT THAT THERE WILL CONTINUE TO BE ONE NIGERIA AND THAT TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THAT UNIT WILL BE PRESERVED, FMG WILL TAKE STEPS TO END FIGHTING AND TO GO INTO DETAILED DISCUSSIONS ABOUT KIND OF CONSTITUTION AND ABOUT VARIOUS MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH. I WANT TO SAY THAT DELAY IN REACHING THAT AGREEMENT DOESN'T LIE WITH FMG AS I SAID EARLIER, FMG IS PREPARED AT ANY STAGE OF FIGHTING TO STOP ONCE THESE CONDITIONS ARE SATISFIED; THAT IN ALTERNATIVE IT WILL PURSUE MILITARY OPERATIONS TO THEIR LOGICAL CONCLUSIONS WHETHER FINISH IN 19 MONTHS OR MORE. IT DOESN'T MATTER.

Q. MY QUESTION REFERRED TO NOT TIME SO MUCH BUT EXPENDITURE OF RESOURCES, BOTH HUMAN AND MATERIAL, WHICH IS REALLY DRAIN ON NIGERIAN ECONOMY AND SET-BACK TO HER PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT. IT WAS THAT POINT MORE OR LESS, NOT SO MUCH LENGTH OF TIME THAT I WANTED TO STRESS.

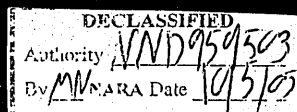
A. WELL, I APPRECIATE YOUR POINT. I AGREE THAT IT IS TRAGIC THAT THIS SHOULD HAPPEN BUT THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO ONE NIGERIA. WE IN NIGERIA BELIEVE THAT TO SUCCUMB TO EXTERNAL PRESSURES -- AND I REPEAT THAT THIS CONFLICT CONTINUES BECAUSE OF EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE -- WE BELIEVE THAT TO SUCCUMB TO IT WILL BE TO BETRAY AFRICA AND WE WILL NEVER DO THAT.

Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, THE LATEST PROPOSAL -- AIRLIFT TO OBLIGO WHICH COUNTRY PROPOSED THAT? WAS IT THE OAU CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE?

A. I MUST SAY THERE WERE SUGGESTIONS FROM VARIOUS INTERESTED PERSONS TO HIM WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE AND FROM MY INFORMATION I AM TOLD THAT PROPOSALS WERE FIRST BROACHED TO FMG BY AN AMERICAN CONGRESSMAN CONGRESSMAN LOWESTEIN -- MR. ALLARD LOWESTEIN -- WHO VISITED NIGERIA QUITE A NUMBER OF TIMES. BEFORE HE PUT PROPOSALS TO HE ASSURED US HE HAD DISCUSSED IT WITH AUTHORITIES IN ADDIS ABABA. HALL

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

Edith Chabon
2-22-69 755

CONFIDENTIAL 916

PAGE 01 ADDIS 00755 220930Z

14
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00,
JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, AID 28,
SR 01, ORM 03, CCO 00, RSR 01, /132 W

0 220855Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8526
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
/AMEMBASSY LONDON 477
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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CONFIDENTIAL ADDIS ABABA 755

PASS VOA

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: ARIKPO PRESS CONFERENCE

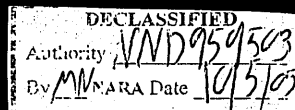
REF: STATE 028243

1. CONFUSION APPARENTLY AROSE BECAUSE OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DETAIL COVERED BY ARIKPO IN PUBLIC PRESS CONFERENCE FEB 21 AND HIS STATEMENT PRIVATELY AFTER PRESS CONFERENCE TO VOA CORRESPONDENT CRAWFORD. IN PUBLIC STATEMENT COVERED BY OTHER NEWS MEDIA, ARIKPO DID NOT STATE LOWENSTEIN PROPOSAL HAS BEEN REJECTED BY OJUKWU. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH CRAWFORD AFTER PRESS CONFERENCE, HOWEVER, ARIKPO STATED OJUKWU HAD TURNED DOWN LOWENSTEIN PROPOSAL. FULL TRANSCRIPT PRESS CONFERENCE Q AND A TAPED BY VOA) BEING PREPARED AND WILL CABLE SOONEST. (STATE 028190)

2. CRAWFORD RECHECKED WITH ARIKPO DIRECTLY EARLY FEB 22. ARIKPO ACKNOWLEDGED YESTERDAYS STATEMENT TO CRAWFORD THAT OJUKWU HAD REJECTED LOWENSTEIN PROPOSAL, BUT IN ELABORATION OF POINT SOMEWHAT QUALIFIED STATEMENT AS FOLLOWS: QTE. LOWENSTEIN PROPOSAL

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ADDIS 00755 220930Z

WAS ACCEPTED BY FMG THREE WEEKS AGO (SIC). AT THAT TIME CONGRESSMAN LOWENSTEIN WENT TO OJUKWU TO TRY TO GET AGREEMENT FROM THEM. WHEN HE RETURNED HE TOLD FMG OJUKWU SAID HE WOULD STUDY PROPOSAL. WE WERE LEFT WITH CLEAR AND DEFINITE IMPRESSION OJUKWU HAD REJECTED PROPOSAL. WE TOLD LOWENSTEIN THAT AS SOON AS OJUKWU NOTIFIED HIM THAT HE AGREED TO PLAN WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO PUT PROPOSAL INTO PRACTICE WITHIN 48 HOURS. CLEARLY, IF THERE WERE ANY ACCEPTANCE, OJUKWU OR LOWENSTEIN WOULD HAVE NOTIFIED HIM AND WE WOULD HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED UNQUOTE HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

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Authority VND 959503
By MNARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 889

PAGE 01 ADDIS 00751 220809Z

20

ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, AID 28, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, ECO 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07

L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, /138 W

043134

O P 220750Z FB 69

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8523

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USUN NEW YORK 499

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 751

RF: STATE 028225 *Pol 27-9 Biafra Nigeria*

1. UNABLE REACH FONMIN KETEMA OR TESFAYE AS YET. ASST MIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS AYALEW MANDEFRO (WHO ON OAU DELEGATION AND GENERALLY WELL INFORMED NIGERIAN DEVELOPMENTS) SAYS TO

BEST HIS KNOWLEDGE THERE HAS BEEN NO RPT NO FURTHER COMMUNICATION FROM OJUKWU TO HIM SINCE OJUKWU'S LETTER JANUARY 10.

2. WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS CONFIRM WITH KETEMA HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

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DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 15-1 US/NIXON
TK POL 27-9 BIAFRA

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

020284
NIGERIA
08

FOR OCIT USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS FLASH

Info

INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
Amembassy LONDON PRIORITY
Amembassy PARIS PRIORITY
US Mission GENEVA PRIORITY
USUN PRIORITY

LIMDIS

STATE

SUBJECT: ~~WKE~~ NIGERIA: PRESIDENTIAL LETTER TO GOWON

FOR AMBASSADOR:

1. You should seek urgent and immediate appointment with Gowon to deliver copy of President's letter below. Original signed letter being handed Ambassador Iyalla Feb. 22. Since appointment of relief coordinator may be announced later today, it especially important that Gowon have President's letter in advance that announcement.

2. Text follows. QUOTE:

DEAR GENERAL GOWON:

I much appreciated your thoughtful letter on the occasion of my inauguration. I share your desire to continue the warm friendship and mutual understanding our two countries have always enjoyed.

The civil war dividing Nigeria is indeed of deep concern to me and my countrymen. We feel your tragedy because we are your good friends, and because we know so well Nigeria's great potential for peaceful and

7
Draft AF/W-RPSmith:chg:2/22/69

6402

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF - Mr. Palmer

Clearances

S/S -RLBrown White House - R. Morris
U - The Under Secretary (draft)

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VND 954503
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

48
OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LAGOS
Amembassy LONDON
Amembassy USUN

STATE

REFERENCE: ADDIS 750

Have Biafrans informed HIM of their response to Obilagu proposal?

ROGERS

4
AF/W - Robert Smith

2619

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

AF - Ambassador Moore

Clearances:

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FORM
8-65 DS-322

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Authority VND 950503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

75



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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CONFIDENTIAL 526

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00518 211444Z

46

ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, IGA 02, OB 01, BOB 01,

TRSY 11, CIAE 00, DODEI 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, EUR 15, RSR 01, T65 W
040025

P R 211415Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 393
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 518

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC BUDGET

1. ICRC MEETING THIS MORNING ATTENDED BY ABOUT 30 GENEVA REPS POTENTIAL DONOR GOVERNMENTS.

2. FREYMOND AND LINDT PRESENTED RELIEF SITUATION, ICRC NEEDS, AND BASIC BUDGET REQUIREMENTS. FREYMOND POINTED OUT SIX MONTHS PROGRAM STARTS IN MARCH AND APPEALED FOR EARLY INDICATIONS GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS. LINDT ADDED THAT NIGERIA/BIAFRA OPERATION WAS FIRST ON SUCH LARGE SCALE IN AFRICA, AND AFRICANS WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND ANY ICRC FAILURE TO CARRY THROUGH FOR WANT OF FUNDS.

3. REFERRING TO ALREADY CONSIDERABLE US CONTRIBUTION TO ICRC COORDINATED NIGERIAN RELIEF EFFORTS, I INDICATED THAT US SUPPORT WOULD CONTINUE AT A SUBSTANTIAL LEVEL. I ALSO URGED ICRC TO ASSURE THAT ALL ICRC EXPENDITURES BE INCLUDED IN BUDGET (STATE 21814). LINDT AND FREYMOND STATED ALL EXPENSES WERE INCLUDED. IN RESPONSE TO MY COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS BY OTHER PERMREPS AS TO WHETHER NEW DRAFT OF BUDGET BEING PREPARED WOULD DIFFER MARKEDLY FROM FIRST DRAFT PRESENTED TO RC SOCIETIES, FREYMOND AND LINDT SAID CHANGES IN NEW DRAFT WERE MOSTLY CHANGES IN PRESENTATION; BASIC FIGURES REMAINED THE SAME.

4. ATMOSPHERE OF MEETING WAS POSITIVE, WITH PERMREPS

CONFIDENTIAL

27

GENEVA-518
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By MVA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00518 211444Z

ASSURING ICRC OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS' SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION
ICRC'S BUDGET REQUESTS.

5. AFTER MEETING, FREYMOND AGAIN EXPRESSED TO ME STRONG
HOPE US WOULD VERY SOON ANNOUNCE A FURTHER CONTRIBUTION.
THIS HE SAID WOULD HELP ICRC IMMEASURABLY IN SECURING THE
ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED FOR ICRC TO CARRY ON ITS
WORK IN NIGERIA. HE HOPED USG CONTRIBUTION COULD BE ON
ORDER OF \$2 MILLION PER MONTH (TOTAL \$12 MILLION).

6. COMMENT: I BELIEVE THAT AN EARLY DECISION TO CONTRI-
BUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO ICRC'S NIGERIA BUDGET (\$12 MILLION
WOULD SEEM TO BE REASONABLE) WOULD BE MOST DESIRABLE.
ICRC'S COORDINATING ROLE REMAINS ESSENTIAL TO AN EFFEC-
TIVE OPERATION. I WOULD AGREE WITH FREYMOND THAT AN
EARLY US DECISION WOULD STIMULATE OTHER GOVERNMENT
CONTRIBUTIONS.

7. STATE 27957 JUST RECEIVED (AFTER MEETING). WILL
PURSUE NEW SUGGESTIONS WITH ICRC. MEETING WAS IN ANY CASE
GENERAL IN EMPHASIS; POINTS PARAS 1A AND B PROBABLY
BETTER PURSUED MORE PRIVATELY WITH FREYMOND AND OTHERS.
AT MEETING, I RAISED QUESTION OF LAND CORRIDOR AND DAY
FLIGHTS (PARA 1C) AND URGED FURTHER EFFORTS TO DEAL
WITH PROBLEM.

8. REGARDING DETAILED COMMENTS ON FINANCIAL PLAN, I
RECOGNIZE IMPORTANCE OF POINTS RAISED. HOWEVER, WOULD IT
NOT BE POSSIBLE TO SETTLE ON AN OVERALL MAGNITUDE FOR THE
US CONTRIBUTION AND WORK OUT DETAILS LATER? SOME OF
REFTEL SUGGESTIONS MIGHT RAISE TOTAL BUDGET FIGURES.
COULD NOT US CONTRIBUTION BE MADE ON BASIS PRESENT
REQUEST (HOPE) FOR \$2 MILLION PER MONTH (\$12 MILLION OR
\$1.6 MILLION SF) ON UNDERSTANDING THAT WE WOULD EXPECT
ICRC TO COVER ANY ADDITIONS TO PRESENT \$4 MILLION ESTIMATE
FROM OTHER THAN US SOURCES?
TUBBY

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By MWA/ARA Date 10/3/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
XL DEF 12-5 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 510

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00178 211447Z

45
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAEI 00, JPM 04, HI 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28,

UPW 01, E 15, DOT 12, RSR 01, 177 W

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R 211410Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2359
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
CINCSRIKE
DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL LIBREVILLE 178

CITE SICR D-CDB-21909

SUBJ BIAFRAN AIRLIFT

1. GROUND ACTIVITY AND MOVEMENT OF AIRCRAFT AT AIRPORT SUGGEST FOLLOWING POSSIBLE FLIGHTS WHICH, IF MADE, DEPARTED FROM GUARDED MILITARY AREA AND THEREFORE PRESUMABLY INVOLVED ARMS SHIPMENTS: DC-3 439B AND DC-4 TR-LNV NIGHT FEB 18-19; DC-4 F-BBDD AND DC-4 TR-LNV NIGHTS FEB 19-20 AND 20-21. DC-3 439 B ALSO LEFT SOMETIME AFTER 1830 FEB 20 BUT HAD NOT RETURNED. LIBREVILLE AS OF 0700 TODAY FEB 21.

2. DC-6 82-PY, LAST HERE FEB 14 (LIBREVILLE 152), RETURNED FOR A FEW HOURS FEB 19.

3. DC-6 DESCRIBED PARA 6 LIBREVILLE 144 AND WHICH WAS HERE FEB 7 RETURNED FEB 19 AND HAS REMAINED SINCE

CONFIDENTIAL

31

0336

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By MN NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIBREV 00178 211447Z

ON CIVILIAN SIDE.

4. ARRIVING ON CIVILIAN SIDE FEB 20 WAS FOLLOWING:
TWO ENGINE AIRCRAFT WHICH WE HAVENOT SEEN BEFORE: HIGH, UPWARD CANTED.
WING SUPPORTED BY LONG STRUTS EXTENDING OUTWARD FROM BOTTOM
OF FUSELAGE, TAIL CENTRAL VERTICAL STABILIZER AND SMALL OUT-
BOARD VERTICAL STABILIZERS NEAR ENDS OF UPWARD CANTED HORIZONTAL
STABILIZER, PLEXIGLASS BUBBLE IN NOSE. UNABLE OBSERVE MARKINGS
OR MAKE FURTHER IDENTIFICATION AT THIS TIME. GP 3 BANE

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Authority VND959503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 646

PAGE 01 KADUNA 00132 240934Z

22
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,
P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SCSE 00, SCA 01, IO 13, SR 01,
ORM 03, AID 28, RSR 01, 145 W

R 211055Z FEB 69
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1046
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMCONSUL IBADAN

UNCLAS KADUNA 0132

SUBJECT: NEW NIGERIAN COMMENTS ON ALLEGED DIFFICULTIES OF JOINT
CHURCH AID. - POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

1. FEBRUARY 21 NEW NIGERIAN CARRIES FRONT PAGE ARTICLE
ALLEGING THAT EIGHT OUT OF 27 AMERICAN PILOTS EMPLOYED
BY JOINT CHURCH AID ON SAO SOME HAVE RETURNED TO U.S. WHEN
THEY WERE REFUSED "DANGER MONEY" OF 20 POUNDS PER FLIGHT
INTO BIAFRA.

2. LEAD EDITORIAL IN NEW NIGERIAN ENTITLED: "SEVERE BLOW
TO CHURCH AID" AVERS THAT PILOTS REALIZED "THEIR CHANCES
OF ESCAPING IN ANY ENCOUNTER WITH GALLANT FEDERAL FORCES
ARE VERY SLIM" AND THEY ALSO AWARE OF FATE OF BELGIAN
MERCENARY MARC GOOSENS WHO WAS KILLED IN ATTACK ON ONITSHA.
EDITORIAL CONNELS "DO-GOODERS" TO CHANNEL AID THROUGH
FMG IN ORDER TO SAVE "TIME AND LIVES BEING WASTED.
UNNECESSARILY".
STOKES

RECEIVED BY 15/4

(1)

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Kaduna 132
2-21-69

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Authority VND 959503
By MWA Date 10/5/05



Rel 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 541

PAGE 01 ADDIS 00750 211532Z

45
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SSO 00, CCO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, RSR 01, 138 W
040211

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000852
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 498

C O N F I D E N T I A L I ADDIS ABABA 750

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: ARIKPO PRESS STATEMENT

1. FMG COMMISSIONER EXTAFF ARIKPO, IN ADDIS TO ATTEND OAU COUNCIL MINISTERS MEETING, HELD PRESS CONFERENCE THIS AFTERNOON. TO MAKE POINT FMG NOT BLOCKING RELIEF MEASURES, ARIKPO DETAILED LOWENSTEIN MISSION TO NIGERIA AND ADDIS, APPROVAL OF LOWENSTEIN PROPOSAL BY HIM AND FMG, AND REJECTION BY OJUKWU. FULL REPORT ON PRESS CONFERENCE BEING REPORTED VIA VOA TELEX.

2. IN LATER PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH VOA CORRESPONDENT CRAWFORD, ARIKPO EXPRESSED INDIGNATION THAT OJUKWU REJECTION OF OBILAGO PROPOSAL HAS NEVER BEEN PUBLICIZED BY ANYONE. SAID LOWENSTEIN STRONGLY IMPLIED TO GOWON THAT IF OJUKWU TURNED SCHEME DOWN LOWENSTEIN WOULD PUBLICIZE TO BENEFIT OF FMG WORLD OPINION POSITION. HALL

*Addis Ababa 750
2/21/69*

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0339

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959/503
By MNARA Date 10/3/05

55.

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AIRGRAM

PL 27-930000 -
NIGERIA

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A-338

UNCLASSIFIED

TO : Department of State

INFO : Lagos, Lusaka, Dar es Salaam, Libreville, Accra,
Abidjan, Addis, Ababa, Cotonou, Paris, USUN

FROM : AmEmbassy LONDON

DATE: February 20, 1969

SUBJECT: Observer Article "Biafrans' are Using Food Relief
Cash for 'Arms'", February 16.

REF : XX

Transmitted herewith is an article that appeared in the Sunday Observer by its "Diplomatic Staff", February 16. The article reports on Nigerian accusations made to relief organizations paying for food grown in Biafra that Biafra is using the funds obtained to pay for arms and the maintenance of overseas information services. The article contends that a new crisis for Biafran relief is likely to be the result.

BRUCE

Enclosure:

As stated.

FEB 22 PM 1 24

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Drafted by: POL/JESilver/ph 2/19/69

Contents and Classification Approved by:
POL/RISplers

Clearances:

0340

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VND 959/503
By: MM NARA Date: 10/5/05

Observer, February 16, 1969

NIGERIA is accusing Colonel Ojukwu's Biafran regime of using money earned from the international famine relief operations to buy arms and maintain Biafra's expensive overseas information services.

The money comes from the sale to the relief organisations of food grown in Biafra—mainly carbohydrates such as cassava, yams and vegetables.

In the view of Lagos, the massive funds going into relief have become a considerable element in Colonel Ojukwu's war budget.

It means a new crisis for Biafran relief—just as it is at last making an impact on the worst of the famine problems in the Ibo heartland.

Since Biafra has lost all possibility of selling exports abroad, it depends entirely on loans from well-wishers or financiers willing to take risks; and on the relief organisations.

The Biafran authorities have so far made no attempt to introduce a central food distribution system. This means that the better-off Biafrans can get what is available, while the poorest—especially the refugees from the outlying parts of Ibo territory—have to rely on the charity of the relief organisations. This enables the Biafran regime to convert relief funds into hard currency to finance purchases abroad.

The relief organisations obtain food from Biafran farmers. Biafra refuses to accept payment in local currency which is worthless abroad. It insists either on payment in foreign currency in Biafra, or payment into an account in Zurich operated by Colonel Ojukwu's regime.

The Biafran regime uses the foreign currency for its own purposes and pays the suppliers of food in local currency. But it has fixed what the

relief agencies regard as an artificially high exchange rate. It does not pay growers the full equivalent. The difference earned in this way goes to boost Biafra's internal budget.

The relief agencies feel the exchange rate greatly inflates the costs of the food purchases and of providing transport and other services in Biafra. Some feel that too great a part of relief funds is being swallowed up because of this.

It is difficult for the agencies to whom the Federal complaints have been made—to dispute the substance of Lagos's allegations. But they are at a loss to know what to do without stopping their purchases in Biafra altogether.

Some international relief organisations have for some time been careful to avoid having themselves open to charges now being pressed by Lagos.

Recently, however, Colonel Ojukwu sent the former Governor of

the Eastern Region, Sir Francis Ibiem, to Switzerland to ask the relief agencies to pay all money due for local purchases directly into the Biafran account in Zurich. He has also proposed that payments should be made to cover future purchases. This demand has created a serious dilemma for the relief agencies, who are afraid of providing a justifiable excuse for the Federal authorities to interrupt the rapidly increasing flow of supplies.

The West German Churches—Protestant and Catholic—are the biggest supporters of feeding centres in Biafra. They pay their dues directly into Biafra's Zurich account. But they have refused to make payments in advance, and are reportedly unhappy about continuing the present arrangements for paying Deutschmarks into the Zurich account.

The World Council of Churches says it has no alternative but to use

hard currency for local purchases. It spends hard currency in the same way in Federal territory. The Federal authorities, of course, do not have the same pressing need for foreign currency as do the Biafrans.

Joint Church Aid—a co-ordinating body in Geneva—says expenditures in Biafra on feeding centres, including local purchases, are in the region of \$300,000 (£125,000) a month. This needs to be increased to \$500,000 (£208,000) monthly.

This is additional to the cost of operating its airlift from Sao Tome, which comes to \$1.25 million (£520,830) monthly. This payment does not, however, go to Biafra, except for a fraction paid to Biafrans for ground services.

The International Red Cross says it is spending 1.5 million Swiss francs (£145,631) monthly in Federal Nigeria, but nothing in Biafra. In addition, it spends nearly 3 million Swiss francs (£291,282) a month on the Biafra airlift. This goes to Swiss

and other European companies, except for a tiny amount paid to Biafrans handling their planes at the Ulli strip.

But the IRC says it has definitely not paid anything into Biafra's Zurich account at any time.

As the figures show, the greatest proportion of funds for relief involves no direct expenditure in Biafra itself. The funds are used to buy non-bulk protein and medical supplies abroad. These are almost entirely unavailable inside Biafra. But they are the crucial element in the vastly improved situation of the Ibos.

About 16,000 tons of protein food have been flown into Biafra since September at a cost of £12,500,000. About half has been supplied by Joint Church Aid, and the other half by the Red Cross.

The danger of disrupting the work of the relief agencies in their present row with the Federal authorities is that it will throttle the supply of protein and medicaments. Since the carbohydrates are anyway produced in Biafra they could, with proper organisation, be more equitably distributed internally.

But a cut-off of proteins would rapidly restore the ghastly spectre of famine to Biafra.

In a country like Biafra the machinery needed to divert all farm products into a centralised pool is immensely difficult. It would, moreover, be strongly resisted by the peasant growers, most of whom have responsibility for those members of their extended family—often numbering 30 or more—who have come in as refugees. The money they get is used for seed, medicaments, clothing and protein supplies—when available.

But those who have food or money, while caring for their own family, would not traditionally help others unless they had enough to meet their own responsibilities. This, few today can manage to do.

DAVID ROBINSON reports from Biafra: The death rate has plummeted. The Red Cross thinks it may be as low as 700 a day compared with last August's estimated 6,000 a day.

The children look so much better that it is unbelievable. Their hair is no longer reddish-gold, their bodies are no longer filled with fluid and pocked with sores.

0341

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Authority VND 954/503
By MNARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

*Addis Ababa 726
2-20-69*

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 00726 201653Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, ORM 03, SR 01, AID 28, CPR 02, JPM 04, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 132 W

033134

R 201253Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8507
INFO AMEMBASSY LOME
USINT SANTA ISABEL
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 726

REF: STATE 025721

SUBJ: SECSTATE LETTER TO FONMIN EQUATORIAL GUINEA

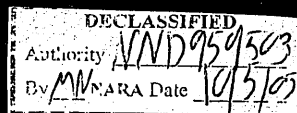
LETTER HANDED FONMIN THIS MORNING. (NATURE HAD
ALREADY BEEN EXPLAINED TO HIM ON PHONE.) HE EXPRESSED
APPRECIATION ITS HAVING BEEN SENT. ONLY COMMENT OF
SUBSTANCE WAS THAT THERE HAD BEEN QTE CERTAIN MISUNDER-
STANDINGS UNQTE IN CONNECTION ICRC FLIGHTS AND THAT HE
HOPED THESE HAD NOW BEEN STRAIGHTENED OUT.

HALL

①

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0342





POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA
POL AFR - US
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 01569 201511Z

47
ACTION AFI 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28,

RSR 01, /145 W

032488

R 201420Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5087
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMCONSUL IBADAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 1569
SUBJ: GOWON SEES VISITING AMERICANS

1. ON FEBRUARY 19, GOWON HAD A ONE-HOUR AND FORTY-MINUTE MEETING WITH MRS. HOUGHTON (TRUSTEE OF IIE) AND MRS. CAHAN (AFRICAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE TRUSTEE), PRIVATE AMERICAN CITIZENS COMPLETING AN AFRICAN TOUR FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE ORGANIZATIONS.

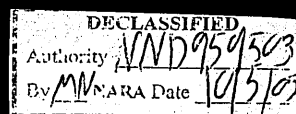
2. THERE WERE NO RPT NO NEW SUBSTANTIVE POINTS MADE BY GOWON, BUT BOTH VISITORS WERE DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY WHAT THEY TOLD EMBOFF WAS QTE TRANSPARENT SINCERITY AND HONESTY UNQTE. AS HE REFUTED QTE GENOCIDE UNQTE CHARGES. HE ALSO REVIEWED IN DETAIL FMG POSITION ON RELIEF SUPPLIES, I.E., NO OBJECTION DAY FLIGHTS AND LAND CORRIDOR.

3. VISITORS NOTED QTE DISTINCT CHILL UNQTE WHEN CODEL GOODELL CAME UP. GOWON NOTED, IN SLIGHTLY ACIDULOUS MANNER, THAT IT QTE UNFORTUNATE SOME OF OUR CALLERS APPEAR HAVE MIND MADE BEFORE ARRIVAL UNQTE.

4. COMMENT: WHILE LITTLE NEW EMERGED FROM CALL, WE BELIEVE ELABORATE ARRANGEMENTS AND FAVORABLE PRESS AND RADIO TREATMENT SHOW NEW AWARENESS THAT FMG MUST IMPROVE IMAGE WITH AMERICANS. (VISITORS ALSO CALLED ON REHAB

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0343





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 01569 201511Z

COMMISSIONER OMO-BARE, CHIEF JUSTICE, DINED AT ARIKPO
AND AMACHREE HOMES, WERE GIVEN MINEXTAFF ESCORT AND
CAR DURING DAY AND HALF STAY IN LAGOS. FEW PROMINENT
FIGURES IN FMG CAPABLE EXERTING CHARM AND PROJECTING
FAVORABLE IMAGE AS GOWON HIMSELF. HE MAY HAVE BEEN
OVERGENEROUS WITH HIS TIME, BUT HE CERTAINLY SCORED
BULLS-EYE WITH TRUSTEES TWO IMPORTANT ORGANIZATIONS IN
AFRICAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS.
DECON ONE YEAR MATHEWS

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0344

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 954503
By	MN NARA Date 10/3/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET 381

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01556 201330Z

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ACTION SS 70

INFO CIAE 00, /070 W

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R 201213Z FEB 69 ZFF-1
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5079
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T LAGOS 1556

LIMDIS

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: OBILAGO PROPOSAL

REF: LAGOS 1206 AND 1344

HAS CONGRESSMAN LOWENSTEIN RECEIVED NY WORD FROM
OJUKWU CONCERNING REBEL DECISION ON OBILAGO PROPOSAL.
GP-3 MATHEWS

2-21-69
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Authority VND 950503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

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Summary
Task Force

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NEA 8

ACDA 5
AID/EXSEC 3
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DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 95/503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/03

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INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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 Classification

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

027001

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20 FEB 69 22 56

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LONDON
 PARIS
 US MISSION GENEVA
 USUN
 CINCSTRIKE
 Amconsul IBADAN
 KADUNA

SUBJECT: NYTimes Story on USG Representative to Biafra

1. Daily press summary Feb 20 (septel) reports Ben Welles NYTimes piece citing Congressional sources for story State Dept planning send representative Umuahia to act as coordinator for aid shipments. This would not, his sources stressed, imply US recognition Biafra.
2. Question was not raised Department Spokesman noon briefing, reported septel. However, following contingency guidance prepared may be useful on background basis addressee posts:
3. As pointed out earlier, policy review Nigerian relief situation not yet completed. However, let me say on Background, I would not expect decision have a US representative resident in Biafra as a coordinator for aid shipments. As you know, the ICRC, through which so much of our assistance is channeled and which plays a coordinating role has, in fact, a resident representative in Biafra.

END

ROGERS

Drafted by: *RS*
 AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 2/20/69

Tel. Ext.
 2105

Telegraphic transmission and
 classification approved by: *new*
 Nigeria Task Force:RMMelbourne

Clearances:

P/ON - Mr. McCloskey (substance)
RM/RS

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 Classification

FORM DS-322
 8-65

0347

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority: *VND 95/503*
 By: *MM* NARA Date: *10/5/05*

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POL 27-9/BIAFRA-NIGERIA
OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LONDON - PRIORITY
Amembassy CONTONOU - PRIORITY
Amembassy GENEVA - PRIORITY

STATE

Senator Goodell (R-N.Y.) statement on Nigeria/Biafra relief situation summarized septel. Department has been receiving press inquiries as

result and there follows draft script which substantively intended to serve as guidance for Department spokesman in press session Feb. 20:

QUOTE question - Senator Goodell has said that he has been assured that the USG will make available to relief agencies all of the cargo planes, ships, maintenance personnel needed to get necessary food and medicine to the starving in Biafra. What does this mean?

ANSWER Before I answer your question, I think it would be useful to quote specifically the statement in question:

Inner Quote I am assured that the USG will make available to relief agencies on a feasible and emergency basis such cargo planes, ships, maintenance personnel and parts as are found to be necessary to perform the humanitarian mission of getting food and medical supplies to the starving people in Biafra and in Nigeria. End inner quote.

Clearly, the words "feasible" and "as are found to be necessary" are important to this statement. As you know, the President has ordered a

4
Drafted by: Nigerian Task Force: RMelbourne

Tel. Ext. 2619

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Nigerian Task Force: RMelbourne

Clearances:

AF - Mr. Palmer
S/S - Mr. Parker

U - The Under Secretary (draft)

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FORM DS-322
8-65

0348

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Authority: VND 954/503
By: MN MARA Date: 10/3/05

Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE

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comprehensive review of the relief situation, and that review is still underway. Therefore, I cannot get into the specifics of what the US might further provide for the international relief effort. The Senator was simply assured that we would -- as we have in the past -- consider every feasible way to assist the international relief effort operating on both sides of the battle line. I want to emphasize that there is nothing new here as a matter of general policy. This reflects our continuing very deep humanitarian concern with the suffering on both sides. And we still have to recognize that the main obstacles to relief are political, which places definite limits on whatever additional help in supplies and equipment can be effectively utilized.

~~QUESTION:~~ As Senator Goodell recognized, the parties to the conflict have still not reached an agreement that would permit either daytime relief flights or a surface corridor, though some arrangements beyond the present nighttime airlift is necessary for any substantial increase in relief going into the secessionist territory.

QUESTION: Who gave the relief assurance to Senator Goodell?

ANSWER: I don't believe we have an obligation to identify the individuals involved.

QUESTION: At some point would the US consider using military aircraft, personnel, and ships in the relief operations?

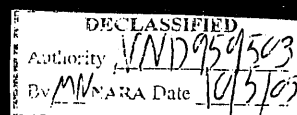
ANSWER: No, I know of no intention to utilize American military personnel or equipment, other than possibly surplus items such as have been made available in the past.

QUESTION: What is the US reaction to and comment upon the relief figures given

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Page 3 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE

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by the Senator in his statement and in the report prepared by his team?

ANSWER: Since we have just received the Senator's report, we are in the process of evaluating the figures in terms of other information available to us.

QUESTION: Do you have any comment on the Senator's charge that the C-97G's provided earlier by the US, are ineffective because of maintenance problems and spare parts shortages?

ANSWER: We are aware that relief agencies have had some difficulties with maintenance and spare parts, and we are working closely with them in an effort to overcome these difficulties. END QUOTE

end

ROGERS

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Authority VND 9501503
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

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INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Origin	ACTION: Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS
Info	<p>XXXX</p> <p>bureaucratic and personnel problems. In Press Club speech Goodell said "US should unilaterally make available more than obsolete C-97 cargo planes that are plagued with shortages replacement parts and numerous maintenance problems." He did not specify what kind aircraft he had in mind, but church and relief agencies from Sao Tome have requested C-130 cargo planes. Senator remarked some relief pilots have quit because they harassed by FMG plane. President Nixon last month ordered complete review American policy on Nigeria. Ronald Zeigler, White House press spokesman reported today review "fairly well along" but no comment on its results or Goodell statement. Other govt sources questioned whether Goodell statement signaled quantum jump in US relief efforts because of physical limitations built into situation. Noting that relief agencies have been having trouble utilizing eight aircraft already furnished they quoted one official who compared Nigerian relief problem to funnel: "problem is not size of the top but of the bottom of the funnel." Goodell used press club speech to issue lengthy report conditions in Biafra prepared by scientific team that accompanied him. Team headed by Harvard nutritionist Dr. Jean Mayer estimated 1.5 million persons have died in last six months because of catastrophic food shortages. Scientists recommended:</p>
Drafted by:	Tel. Ext.
Clearances:	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

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Classification

FORM DS-322
8-65

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VN12959503
By: MVA Date: 10/5/03

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

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Origin	ACTION: Page 3 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS
Info:	<p>(1) expanded airlift capacity and perhaps air drops food to meet protein deficiencies causing particular suffering and permanent mental physical damage young children; (2) opening land or sea-land corridors bring in massive food supplies prevent threatened caloric famine; (3) much more extensive clinical and immunization programs protect weakened population from measles, smallpox, anemia, tuberculosis, other maladies. Mayer's team with Goodell endorsement highly critical UN. Saw need special programs by WHO, FAO and UNESCO, saying these agencies should not be inhibited by political considerations. Scientists also urged Nixon appoint relief coordinator and station expert personnel Biafra who could report directly to him. Amemb Amembassy Lagos they said cut off completely from secessionist region. Goodell called Administration work for cease fire and arms embargo.</p> <p>3. William Chapman, Wash Post, says if administration determines Biafrans' needs are as great as he found them, according Goodell, could mean ten-fold increase emergency food supplies. Several administration officials appeared surprised by Goodell comments and at White House Ron Zeigler had no comment except say State Dept study on Biafran relief is continuing. Referring his statement re administration assurances, which quoted as in 2 above, Goodell later said amount promised would be sufficient "to prevent starvation." His team</p>
Drafted by:	Tel. Ext. Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:
Clearances:	

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

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Authority VVD 954503
By MN/ARA Date 10/3/05

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Info:

ACTION: Page 4 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

estimated Biafrans would need between 500,000 and 600,000 tons this year merely to meet calorie needs. Present emergency airlift bringing in only tenth that, about 1,000 tons nightly or 50,000 tons a year. He emphasized Nixon administration making own survey food needs and does not accept his team's estimates as planning basis. Also mentioned mercenary pilot identifying himself radio communications as "genocide", who waits until airport lighted to receive aid flights and then drops as many as nine bombs an evening.

4. Benjamin Welles, NYTimes, said Goodell declined identify source assurances other than "top echelons" govt, but reliable informants said he discussed humanitarian aspects Nigerian crisis at length with Secretary of State Rogers. Congressional sources also reported State Dept was for first time planning send representative to Umuahia, administrative center Biafra, to act as coordinator for aid shipments. This would not, they stressed, imply US recognition for Biafra. State Dept resistance to date to maintaining official representative with Biafran regime has led to repeated criticism by Senator Kennedy and other Congressional figures. They have charged US had been deprived of "eyes and ears" in Biafra. State Dept has insisted it ~~was~~ must honor objections FMG which regards Biafra as rebellious province and any direct dealings with it - even humanitarian - as support for treason.

END

ROGERS

Drafted by:	Tel. Ext.	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:
Clearances:		

UNCLASSIFIED

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

0354

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MM NARA Date 10/3/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

027654

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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☐ CHARGE TO

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ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LONDON
PARIS
US MISSION GENEVA
USUN
CINCSTRIKE
Ameonsul IBADAN
KADUNA

SUBJ: Nigeria - Department Spokesman Briefing Feb 20

Following is excerpt transcript Dept Spokesman noon briefing Feb 20:

QUOTE: Q. Bob, there are reports the US is considering increasing substantially the aid to Biafra. Can you give us anything on this?

A. The reference here, as I assume the question, is because of a speech yesterday by Senator Goodell. I think it would be useful to quote specifically the statement in question. This is the quote: ~~xxxxxx through it because xxxxxx you have all read it, it~~

"I am assured that the USG will make available to relief agencies on a feasible and emergency basis such cargo planes, ships, maintenance personnel, and parts as are found to be necessary to perform the humanitarian mission of getting food and medical supplies to the starving people in Biafra and in Nigeria."

Now, clearly, the word "feasible" and the phrase "as are found to be necessary" are important to this statement. The President has ordered a comprehensive review of the relief situation, and that review is still

17

Drafted by:

AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 2/20/69

Tel. Ext.

2105

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by: Nigeria Task Force:RMMelbourne

Clearances:

P/ON - Mr. McCbskey (substance)

RM/RB

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Authority VND 954503
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

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Classification

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Info:

ACTION: Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

underway. I cannot, therefore, get into the specifics of what the US might further provide for the international relief effort.

The Senator was simply assured that we would, as we have in the past, consider every feasible way to assist the international relief effort operating on both sides of the battleline.

I should emphasize this is a reaffirmation of our general policy and shows a willingness to make a major effort on the humanitarian side of the problem, and it reflects our continuing very deep humanitarian concern with the suffering on both sides. But we still have to recognize that the main obstacles to relief are political, which places definite limits on whatever additional help in supplies and equipment can be effectively utilized. And as Senator Goodell recognized, the parties to the conflict have still not reached an agreement that would permit either daytime relief flights or a surface corridor, though some arrangement beyond the present nighttime airlift is necessary for any substantial increase in relief going into the secessionist territory.

Q. Bob, Nigeria's Federal Commissioner for Transport, Mr. Tarka said he had received assurances from US officials during the recent visit

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Clearances:		

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

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By: MN/ARA Date: 10/5/05

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Origin
Info

ACTION: Page 3 of tel to Amembasy LAGOS

to the US that the US would never recognize Biafra. Do you have any
comment on this? Is this so?

A. The USG recognizes only the Federal Military Government of
Nigeria.

Q. Is there any comment on ~~xxx~~ our future plans?

A. I will stand on that for now. UNQUOTE

END

ROGERS

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classification approved by:
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FORM
8-65 DS-322

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Authority VMD 954503
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ORG 7 AF ✓
XS POL 27 BIAFRA - NIGERIA ✓
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA X

CONFIDENTIAL 137

PAGE 01 PARIS 25640 201900Z

41
ACTION SS 70

INFO CCO 00,SSO 00,NSCE 00,USIE 00,CIAE 00,1070 W
----- 096251

O R 201940Z DEC 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9292
AMEMBASSY LONDON
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 25640

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VISIT BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOORE

REF: STATE 289522

1. GIVEN RECENT DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN FRENCH AND BRITISH OVER QUESTION OF DISCUSSING NIGERIA, WE RAISED WITH QUAI AFRICA DIRECTOR LEBEL POSSIBILITY OF ASKING DEPUTY ASST SEC MOORE STOP BY PARIS IF FRENCH THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL. LEBEL MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE NOT AT ALL KEEN ON IDEA, SAYING FRENCH "HAD NO NEW IDEAS TO CONTRIBUTE" TOWARDS SOLUTION OF HUMANITARIAN RELIEF PROBLEM. LEBEL SAID HE WOULD OF COURSE BE PLEASED TO RECEIVE MOORE SHOULD HE COME TO PARIS, BUT WE INTERPRET THIS AS COURTESY GESTURE.

2. IN LIGHT OF LEBEL'S REPLY WE DO NOT THINK MOORE VISIT ADVISABLE. FRENCH APPEAR UNUSUALLY SKITTISH ON NIGERIA/BIAFRA QUESTION AT PRESENT TIME, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO TALKING ABOUT NEW SOLUTIONS.

SHRIVER

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Authority VND 959503
By MW NARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 327

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00501 201232Z

18
ACTION: AFI 18

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

USIA 12, RSR 01, E 15, DOT 12, /176 W

031568

R 201130Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 377
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USUN NEW YORK 2774
USINT SANTA ISABEL

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 501

SUBJECT: JCA SAO TOME AIRLIFT

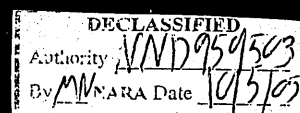
REF: A) GENEVA 471; B) GENEVA 466; C) LAGOS 1539

1. CRS HAS CONFIDENTIALLY INFORMED MISSION THAT AS RESULT AMSTERDAM MEETING BETWEEN REPS JCA/US, FLIGHT TEST RESEARCH, AND MOLLERUP NORDCHURCHID (PARA 5 REF A), CRS IS REQUESTING MEETING TOMORROW BETWEEN LINDT AND FREYMOND OF ICRC, MOLLERUP OF NORDCHURCHID, AND CHENARD OF CRS (AND JCA/US) TO DISCUSS INCREASINGLY HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH RELIEF FLIGHTS TO ULI ARE OPERATING.

2. LINDT HAS MADE CLEAR TO CRS IN PRIVATE TALKS, AND HAS ALSO OBSERVED MORE PUBLICLY (IN FEBRUARY 17 ICRC-NATIONAL SOCIETIES MEETING AND REGULAR WEDNESDAY VOLAG MEETING ON FEBRUARY 19) THAT IN HIS VIEW THERE IS NO REALLY VALID BASIS FOR PROTESTS TO FMG OVER THE HARASSMENT OF RELIEF FLIGHTS TO ULI. ULI IS AN AIRSTRIP UNDER BIAFRAN MILITARY CONTROL, HANDLES ARMS FLIGHTS, AND IS CONSEQUENTLY A LEGITIMATE FMG TARGET.

CONFIDENTIAL

0359





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00501 201232Z

3. CRS (LUMB) OBSERVED THAT LINDT APPROACH WAS "ONE LINE" BUT THAT JCA (OR AT LEAST COMPONENTS REPRESENTED AT AMSTERDAM) HOPED A WAY COULD BE FOUND TO DECREASE FMG HARASSMENT OF RELIEF FLIGHTS AT ULI.

4. MISOFF SUGGESTED THAT INCREASING HAZARDS OF NIGHT FLIGHTS INTO ULI RENEWED OPPORTUNITY, PERHAPS FOR ICRC AND JCA TOGETHER, TO INCREASE PRESSURE ON OJUKWU TO APPROVE DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. LUMB CONTENDED THAT OJUKWU HAD IN PAST BEEN APPROACHED REPEATEDLY TO PERMIT DAY FLIGHTS BUT HIS POSITION CLEAR AND NOT LIKELY CHANGE NOW.

COMMENT: FREYMOND AND LINDT MAY WELL COUNTER PROBABLY CHENARD-MOLLERUP REQUEST FOR ICRC-JCA REPRESENTATIONS TO FMG ON HARASSMENT BY SUGGESTING JOINT PRESSURE ON OJUKWU TO PERMIT DAY FLIGHTS (SEE FREYMOND COMMENT PARA 4 REF B). CHENARD AND MOLLERUP MAY NOT REPRESENT ELEMENTS OF JCA MOST LIKELY BE RECEPTIVE THIS SUGGESTION, BUT LOGIC OF SITUATION AND MORE FLEXIBLE VIEWS OF REPS SOME OTHER JCA ELEMENTS (E.G. MONSIGNOR RODHAIN OF CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS) SUGGEST, AS NOTED LAGOS 1539, "POSSIBILITY OF COOPERATION AMONG RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS TO PRESS DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS ON OJUKWU". END COMMENT.

5. AMSTERDAM MEETING ALSO DISCUSSED PROBLEMS REGARDING CREWS. SOME MEMBERS C-97G CREWS WHICH JUST RESIGNED FROM SAO TOME OPERATION ATTENDED MEETING AND REPORTEDLY WERE GIVEN ROUGH TIME, ESPECIALLY BY KINNEY OF JCA/US.

6. QUESTION OF FLIGHT BONUSES WILL BE DISCUSSED BY CHENARD AND MOLLERUP WITH LINDT AND FREYMOND. JCA PAYS BONUSES BUT ICRC PAYS MORE, "PILOTS TALK TO EACH OTHER", AND JCA IN PARTICULAR WOULD LIKE TO DEVELOP COMMON UNDERSTANDING WITH ICRC AS TO TERMS AND AMOUNTS. PAYMENTS ARE APPARENTLY MADE ON SPOT IN COTONOU, SANTA ISABEL, AND SAO TOME, AND ICRC GENEVA AND CRS GENEVA HAVE NO PRECISE INFORMATION ON AMOUNTS INVOLVED (ONE OF A NUMBER OF UNVERIFIED "REPORTS" IS THAT ICRC CREW MEMBERS GET \$100 FOR FIRST FLIGHT AND \$50 FOR EACH SUCCESSIVE FLIGHT SAME NIGHT, ON TOP OF REGULAR REIMBURSEMENT.)
TUBBY

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Department of State

ROL 27-9 BIAFRA-
NIGERIA

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 501

PAGE 01 THE HA 00675 201458Z

47
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAF 00,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03,
SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, /149 W

032389

P R 201310Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3524
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
US MISSION GENEVA 377
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USUN NEW YORK 223
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 675

SUBJ: "LUNS PLAN" FOR NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: HAGUE 380 AND 520 (NOT SENT OTTAWA)

1. REFEELS REPORT LUNS' INITIATIVE, GROWING OUT OF HIS
TALKS IN ADDIS END JANUARY, TO PROMOTE UNDER OAU UMBRELLA
A COOPERATIVE EUROPEAN RELIEF ASSISTANCE EFFORT FOR NIGERIA
WHICH MIGHT CENTER ON OPENING AND EXPLOITATION OF LAND CORRIDOR.

2. MFA DIRECTOR ME/AFRICAN AFFAIRS (HUGDECOPER) INFORMED
EMBASSY FEBRUARY 20 THAT ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOW
PLACED STAMP OF APPROVAL ON THIS EFFORT, CLEARING WAY
FOR MORE INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS BY DUTCH WITH

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The Hague,
2/20/69
T.D. 675

ROL 27-9 BIAFRA-
NIGERIA

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 THE HA 00675 201458Z

BENELUX PARTNERS, SCANDINAVIANS, GERMANY, AND ITALY. UK AND FRANCE ARE NOT BEING INVITED BECAUSE OF NATURE THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN NIGERIAN AFFAIRS; HOWEVER, IN DEPARTURE FROM EARLIER INDICATION THAT DUTCH WANTED KEEP THIS EUROPEAN EFFORT UNDER THEIR SPONSORSHIP. HUYDECOPER TOLD US HE HAS RECEIVED APPROVAL FROM LUNS FOR INVITATION TO BOTH U.S. AND CANADA TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE TALKS ON GROUNDS MAJOR AID SUPPLIERS SHOULD BE INCLUDED.

3. FIRST SUCH MEETING WILL BE HELD AT MFA FEBRUARY A& WITH EMBASSIES FROM INDICATED COUNTRIES BEING INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES. WE HAVE RESPONDED THAT WE UNABLE OBTAIN INSTRUCTIONS ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE BUT WOULD BE PLEASED SEND "OBSERVER" (WHO WILL BE SECOND SECRETARY). TYLER

CONFIDENTIAL

27

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By	MN NARA Date 10/3/05

46

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

MAR 7 1969

DATE

MEMORANDUM FOR: RS/AN - Mrs. Swartz

SUBJECT: Processing of Memoranda
of Conversation

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By MN NARA Date 04/3/05

46
APPROVED IN U:RUSER
MARCH 1969

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2953

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: February 20, 1969
Under Secretary's Office
10:00 a.m.

SUBJECT: Emergency Relief for Biafra

PARTICIPANTS: The Under Secretary
Mr. Joseph Palmer 2nd - Assistant Secretary AF
Mr. Roy M. Melbourne - Country Director AF/W
Mr. John S. Leahy, Jr. - Congressional Travel H

Mr. Allard K. Lowenstein - (D-N.Y.)
Mr. Charles E. Goodell - Senator (R-N.Y.)

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INR/OD_c DOS_c AID-3_c

At the outset of the two-hour meeting, the Under Secretary told both Senator Goodell and Congressman Lowenstein that Secretary Rogers regretted being unable to meet with them in view of his busy schedule before leaving for Europe. Both stated they fully understood.

Senator Goodell began by mentioning that the zambian Ambassador here had made a suggestion to him. President Kaunda of Zambia was meeting very shortly with President Kenyatta of Kenya. He considered those leaders might agree to exercise pressure on both Nigeria and Biafra for an expanded relief operation into Biafra. The Zambian Ambassador suggested that he be given a letter from the State Department. This should reaffirm the U.S. intent to do everything it can in supplying equipment to get food into Biafra; to repeat the U.S. wish not to interfere in the political situation, which we considered an African matter; to say the U.S. deemed relief a matter of great urgency, and to declare the U.S. had an open mind on what relief arrangements might be made.

The Under Secretary expressed appreciation to the Senator for the message and said that it would be given careful consideration in the light of initiatives available to us. In response to a query, Mr. Palmer doubted if Kenyatta alone would have much leverage in Lagos. He did not think he would be willing to move in on relief matters in

(Drafting Office and Officer)

AF/W:RMELBOURNE: emb

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By: MN NARA Date: 10/5/05

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- 2 -

which the Emperor had been engaged.

Senator Goodell stated that both he and Mr. Lowenstein are working in the closest cooperation and are convinced of the urgent need to move on the relief question. They consider the chances for success are better now in making arrangements for a more effective relief access route. In two or three weeks, however, both sides will find reasons not to go along with what they may have previously agreed. There is a need for a person to act as a continuous liaison in order to press ahead with approved relief arrangements agreeable to both sides.

The Under Secretary said that we appreciate the urgency of the problem and that it has been discussed at the NSC. What was their joint assessment of the opportunities? Press coverage of Senator Goodell's statement, for example, emphasized U.S. willingness to provide supplies and equipment, but not the great problems of getting such supplies to the needy.

Goodell said he has always been careful to say that the U.S. should not become politically involved. He does deem it important to keep clear to the public that the U.S. has moved another step to see that possible mass tragedy does not happen. Both he and Lowenstein worked together to find ways of getting relief in, but Lowenstein was not connected with the report made by his technical team.

Lowenstein emphasized the urgency of someone following up their efforts to find an agreed access route for relief supplies and asked whether the USG - either directly or through a private citizen - could assume this function. Both he and Goodell were considering a non-partisan appeal to both sides to agree to this, which they through the U.S. could follow up. It seemed best to him and Senator Goodell to publicize the proposal by an appeal in order to get the maximum pressure on Biafra for acceptance. They were considering a bipartisan appeal by one Republican and one Democrat in each House. They were flexible on this, but were thinking in terms of Senators Goodell and Kennedy and Congressmen Lowenstein and Lukens. Perhaps some UK parliamentarians might take comparable action, for they had discussed this in London.

Mr. Palmer observed that while the names mentioned might impress the Biafrans, he was not sure of the Lagos reaction and thought if more balance were obtained, the appeal would be better received on both sides. Mr. Palmer also said he understood that the terms of the

CONFIDENTIAL

0365

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By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05

CONFIDENTIAL

- 3 -

relief route plan were to be without publicity. Mr. Lowenstein agreed, but said that the effort could not be continued now without publicity. When he last saw Ojukwu, the latter complained that the Emperor had garbled the relief proposal originally made to him by Lowenstein and that it was unacceptable. (Palmer reminded Lowenstein that the U.S. had worked with the Emperor to put two relief route proposals up to Ojukwu and Gowon at the same time as Lowenstein's on Obilagu.) Military operations begun by the FMG had, said Ojukwu, made the Uturu (Obilagu) airfield and land route plan unfeasible. Lowenstein had hit Ojukwu hard, saying that it would appear that he was blocking food shipments into Biafra. He then got Ojukwu's agreement to try a 30-day emergency relief airlift into Uturu with the caveat it would have to be considered by his State Council. Lowenstein said that while Ojukwu had agreed to send him a message, there still had been none. When Lowenstein raised the idea in Lagos with Arikpo, he finally approved of the trial lift of 30 days, but Gowon had not been seen personally on this. Lowenstein did not believe Ojukwu would trust the Emperor as an intermediary. He had informed the FMG that the Emperor should not be used for this. Also unacceptable to Ojukwu was any Commonwealth Secretariat mediation.

The Under Secretary raised the implications of publicity. There had been much discussion within the Administration and it might be that the President or the Secretary would wish to make an initial statement. Lowenstein said he agreed if the President proposed a specific relief plan, but he did not believe the President would want to commit himself to this. The Under Secretary asked for their reaction if the President appointed a relief coordinator. Lowenstein felt that with the congressional personnel involved, they could make their appeal to both sides to accept the Uturu (Obilagu) relief plan. A relief coordinator could move in and press for the plan, with his chances of success perhaps greater because of the publicity. The Under Secretary thought there might be an intermediate step. The U.S. would not publicly endorse any one plan, but would be prepared to facilitate a plan without any political implications being involved. Goodell remarked that their public appeal might make it easier for the U.S. in any report to put the blame on Ojukwu. The Under Secretary said that any report of efforts we made would speak for itself.

The Under Secretary at this point withdrew to attend another meeting and invited the visitors to continue the discussions with Mr. Palmer.

CONFIDENTIAL

0366

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By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05

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- 4 -

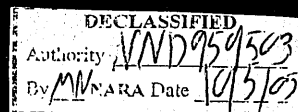
Lowenstein said that a U.S. report could be viewed as an ultimate, but not the next step. He still was attracted to his public appeal idea. We were running out of time. If there is a follow-up to his and Senator Goodell's efforts on a relief access plan, it could be difficult for Biafra to refuse. Ojukwu must be pressed. He and Goodell would hold off on any public appeal if the Administration would do something before the President left for Europe. A U.S. coordinator could not be as blunt with Ojukwu as they in a public appeal. Mr. Palmer said that he was under the impression that both sides attached importance to working out a confidential solution, with the use of publicity reserved as a sanction for an agreement. Congressman Lowenstein replied that yesterday Ambassador Iyalla had been pressing him for a public appeal for agreement. However, Iyalla had hoped Lowenstein would not associate himself with Goodell in this since the latter in Lagos was identified with Biafra.

Lowenstein believed that the FMG still might try to get out of its tentative agreement on the Uturu (Obilagu) airstrip in three ways: (1) It wished the area demilitarized for the relief route to start at the FMG front lines and move forward. Lowenstein had told Arikpo this was impracticable and the latter said this could be discussed later. (2) The supervision or neutralization of the airport. Both sides might try to use this to get out of any agreement. Ojukwu would want at least one Biafran present to see that the airfield was not being used by the FMG. Who would be responsible for supervision of the airfield, whether pro-Biafran states would be included, or whether the ICRC and relief agencies would do it alone, all were unclear questions. (3) The way in which the entire project was begun was important. The Emperor was not acceptable to the Biafrans as a go-between. Where would both sides go to discuss arrangements? It might be possible through a third person or should they meet in Cotonou? Both sides have accepted that the flights into Uturu would have to be by daylight from Fernando Po, but other questions were not settled, such as the corridors they will fly.

Lowenstein affirmed that the Obilagu proposal comprised only daylight flights. There was also no proscription on the night use of Uli. Lowenstein said the FMG had agreed to withdraw its forces from the Uturu area, but they were drawing back from this. Mr. Palmer asked if there was any backsliding regarding the airfield itself. Lowenstein said that the fact the airfield was on Nigerian

CONFIDENTIAL

0367



CONFIDENTIAL

- 5 -

territory had caused some problems. The FMG generally agreed to the neutral area concept, but had not agreed to the airfield as being totally neutralized.

Palmer asked for Ojukwu's view of the Cross River access route, and Lowenstein replied that he had scorned it as a land corridor through Nigerian territory and thus unacceptable. Asked if Biafra would accept day flights to Uli, Lowenstein said Ojukwu was negative on this but had proposed flights to another strip in Biafra (not Uga). He offered to assist those working on relief to build this strip. Ojukwu had given no indication that a third strip was building. If relief agencies did so, Ojukwu would give his word the field would be only for relief purposes. He would accept U.S. handling of inspection at such a neutralized airfield, which need have only one Biafran present. If at a later point the field were needed for military purposes, sufficient notice would be given to the relief agencies in writing.

Despite all of the problems outlined in the discussion, Lowenstein considered the chances for success on the Uturu (Obilagu) project were 50-50 if the U.S. moved promptly. Both Gowon and Arikpo, he believed, favored the Uturu plan but he was not sure of its fate if left up to the FMG military commanders.

In a discussion of the attitudes of the African states, Mr. Palmer said that he thought they were becoming more disturbed and frustrated the longer the conflict continued. A few might even side with Biafra, but all were concerned about the problem as reflecting their own domestic problems. Goodell said that President Tubman of Liberia was discouraged as to what might be done, while the Zambian Ambassador here thought there is a potential for an African initiative. Mr. Palmer referred to the OCAM decision to take some peace and relief initiative but there had been no real result.

In conclusion, both Goodell and Lowenstein emphasized that they wished to know as soon as possible what the U.S. Government intended to do. They would not make any public appeal on the subject of specific relief plans before the United States took action, such as in naming a coordinator, if this was done urgently. Time was important and congressional sentiment was rising.

CONFIDENTIAL

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By	MM
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	3	
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
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OSD	USIA	NSA
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AIRGRAM

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NIGERIA

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A-18

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

FROM : Amembassy LIBREVILLE

DATE: February 19, 1969

SUBJECT : Biafran Children's Relief

REF :

Enclosed is a resume by Dr. Frank CATCHPOOL, of the University of California and representing the Schweitzer Fellowship, on the reception, treatment and accommodation of Biafran children in Gabon. Except for a few minor editorial corrections and parenthetical notes, the enclosed report is as written by Dr. Catchpool.

BANE

Enclosure: all m.m.

1. Resume by Dr. Catchpool.

FORM 4-62 DS-323

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Prepared by: HFNelson:ljh 19Feb69

Contents and Classification Approved by:

DMBane Amb.

Clearances:

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By: MVA NARA Date: 10/3/03

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A# 18
LIBREVILLE

February 17, 1969

Report on Biafran Children's Relief in Gabon
Prepared by Dr. Frank Catchpool of the University
of California and Representing Schweitzer Fellowship, NY

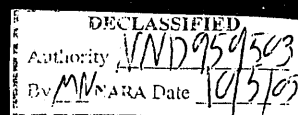
The situation with regard to the evacuation of sick children from Biafra has recently changed. One month ago the availability of suitable accommodation was the principal factor limiting the number of children who could be evacuated. Both the Biafrans and the Gabonese are now insisting that tented hospitals and converted churches are no longer acceptable, and that the accommodation for the children must be built to a standard not often found in Africa.

A large building program was initiated 4 months ago by a consortium of North German protestant and catholic churches (Caritas Dienst Ubersea) on a 40-acre site at Km 11 on the route de Kango. The site is well beyond the municipal electricity and telephone lines, but it is on a hard-top road and on the main Libreville water supply. It seems that the group has at least \$1.5 million available for construction. Six pavilions are now completed and another 6 to 8 are in various stages of construction. A total of 50 pavilions are planned, each consisting of a 30X10 meter dormitory, a washing room, a toilet room (12), a nursing station, an intensive care room, a kitchen, and 2 bedrooms with showers and toilets for Biafran nurses. Each building has a 30X6 meter veranda where the children have school and eat their meals. Each building is reputed to cost between 5.5 and 6.5 million CFA (\$22,450 - \$26,500). The buildings, built by a consortium of SNCF and Sogatra, have a pleasing appearance and are functional. At this moment the center has 60 empty beds.

It has been decreed by the French that all children coming out of Biafra must transit through the French military hospital. Four buildings paid for by the French Red Cross almost identical to those built at Km 11 are now nearly ready for occupation at the French army hospital. Some time this week children will be transferred from tents to the new buildings. It is proposed that the tents be removed and replaced with similar buildings, two of which are to be built by the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship of New York. It has been agreed that the buildings will carry a large sign identifying the benefactor. In verbal agreements between Dr. Catchpool and Col. SAGNET, former commanding officer of the military hospital, it was agreed that Dr. Catchpool should work in close alliance with the military doctors. Dr. Catchpool was introduced to the new team of doctors and it was announced that he should be permitted to take photographs, attend and conduct all autopsies, consult and advise on all treatments, and have access to all the patients' notes. This arrangement is not working out too well with Col. PAILLET, who now replaces Col. Sagnet (who has returned to Marseilles). Within the last 2 weeks Col. Paillet has been conducting a reorganization of the tent hospital. One hundred of the more healthy children were sent to Km 11 and the number of children in the army hospital has been reduced to about 200. Last Friday (February 14) the evacuation of children from

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A # 18
LIBREVILLE

-2-

Biafra was resumed. Col. Paillet plans to bring out not more than 60 children per week. The last 30 children were in such poor condition that 2 died before any treatment could be started. Their condition ranged from extreme kwashiorkor to extreme marasmus, often complicated by infected skin lesions, advanced TB, and advanced cirrhosis of the liver, etc. Many are doomed to die despite treatment. No matter what the Biafrans say, it is hard to believe that they are coping adequately with the nutritional situation in Biafra. Ninety percent of the planes return empty from Biafra.

The Terres des Hommes group has not yet been able to enlarge its accommodation. The new buildings planned in October have not yet been started. Their delays seem to be mostly due to difficulties with the acquisition of a suitable building site.

The Order of Malta now has permission from the Gabonese and the Ivoiriennes to evacuate 1,000 Biafran children from the Gabon to Abidjan and Yamoussoukro where special centers are being prepared.

The bottleneck is now the French military hospital. Dr. Catchpool thinks that it is a pity that Col. Paillet reduced the number of children in order to tidy up the camp.

The Kml group is very upset that they are not permitted to receive children directly from Biafra, especially now that they have 6 doctors and many Biafran nurses.

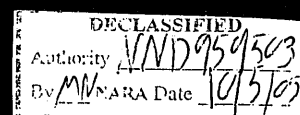
The Lambarene (Schweitzer) hospital now has funds to build accommodation for 100 more children but building in Lambarene cannot proceed as fast as it does in Libreville because all building materials must be trucked from Libreville.

The present insistence on permanent buildings at the French army hospital site is leading to further complications. The land on which the buildings are now being built belongs to ASECNA, which had planned to build a radio antenna tower there. The director of ASECNA has threatened to raze the hospital buildings the day a cease-fire is declared in Biafra. By dismantling the buildings only about a half of their cost can be recovered. President Bongo has been reported to be in favor of continuing the French army hospital as a center for pediatrics-studies after the Biafrans have gone home. This difference of opinion is currently being negotiated between Col. MERLE (French Military Attache) and the ASECNA.

Dr. Catchpool now plans to go ahead (at the French military hospital) with the construction of one or two buildings to match these being built by the French Red Cross. The start of construction has had to be delayed until the other buildings were finished and occupied so that the vacated tents can be pulled down. It is hoped that the extra buildings will permit a larger number of children to be transited through the military hospital. It is

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A#18
LIBREVILLE

-3-

also hoped that the German Caritas-Protestant Church Center at Km 11 will soon be allowed to receive sick children directly from Biafra. Dr. Catchpool plans to divide his time between supervising the construction of the buildings at the military hospital and caring for children at Km 11. He hopes to be able to take an active part in the selection and conveying of sick children from Biafra to Gabon.

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05



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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 150

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00492 191958Z

46
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

USIA 12, RSR 01, 149 W

026561

R 191742Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 369
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USUN NEW YORK 2771
USINT SANTA ISABEL

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 492

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN BELIEF: ICRC BIAFRA AIRLIFTS

REF: GENEVA 443

1. SANTA ISABEL: FLIGHTS NIGHTS FEBRUARY 14-18 AS FOLLOWS:
FEBRUARY 14: 2; 15: 3; 16: 2; 17: 1; 18: 1. ABOUT TEN TONS PER
FLIGHT. ONLY ONE PLANE (DC-7) NOW OPERATING BUT ADDITIONAL
EXPECTED AS PER AGREEMENT REPORTED SANTA ISABEL 40.

2. COTONOU: ICRC REPORTS COMPLETED FLIGHTS NIGHTS FEBRUARY 14-18
AS FOLLOWS (LETTERS AFTER DC-6'S ARE ICRC REPORTING DESIGNATIONS
FOR SPECIFIC PLANES):

FEBRUARY	TOTAL	TRANSALL	DC-6(S)	DC-6(T)	DC-6(R)
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FEBRUARY	TOTAL	TRANSALL	DC-6(S)	DC-6(T)	DC-6(R)	TONS
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14	7	2	2	1	2	70.3
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Authority

By

MMARA Date

VND 954503
10/3/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00492 191958Z

15	5	1	2	0	2	47.2
16	4	1	1	1	1	36.8
17	3	1	1	0	1	30.5
18	9	2	3	2	2	92.3

3. "MILITARY ACTIVITY" AT ULI NIGHT FEBRUARY 16 REDUCED COMPLETED FLIGHTS. FEBRUARY 17 IT WAS "BAD WEATHER" (COTONOU 185 INDICATES REPORTED DEFECTIVE BEACONS AT ULI). DC-6 (T) WAS "NEARLY BOMBED" NIGHT FEBRUARY 14. CREW GUNNED ENGINE THAT NIGHT (TO AVOID BOMBS), AND DOUBTED IT WAS IN SATISFACTORY CONDITION FEBRUARY 15. FLEW FEBRUARY 16 BUT HAD ENGINE PROBLEM FEBRUARY 17. TRANSALL LIMITED TO ONE FLIGHT NIGHT FEBRUARY 15 BECAUSE OF "HYDRAULIC FAILURE".

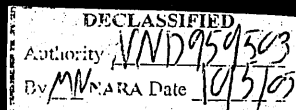
4. SWEDISH DC-7 CARRYING MEDICAL SUPPLIES FROM STOCKHOLM TO COTONOU AND WOUNDED BIAFRANS FROM THERE TO EUROPEAN HOSPITALS.

5. ONE C-97G ARRIVED BASLE OVER WEEKEND AND SECOND EXPECTED SOON. INITIAL FLIGHTS FOR ONE OR BOTH WILL BE TO CARRY MEDICAL EQUIPMENT TO COTONOU. WILL START RUN TO ULI WHEN COTONOU PARKING PERMITS.

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

POL 7 FR
12 POL 16 BIAFRA ✓

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA ✓

SECRET 630

PAGE 01 PARIS 02456 191341Z.

54
ACTION SS 70

INFO CIAE 00,1070 W

024437

R 191318Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1202
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T PARIS 2456

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON BIAFRA

REF: PARIS 1961

(3) 1. EMBOFF FINALLY ABLE PIN DOWN GAULLIST DEPUTY ALAIN TERRENOIRE FEB 18 FOR DISCUSSION OF HIS VISIT TO BIKRA EARLY THIS MONTH. TENENOIRE IS YOUNG, BRIGHT, AGGRESSIVE, HARD-CORE GAULLIST WHO IS EVEN STRONGER ADVOCATE OF BIAFRAN CAUSE AND FRENCH POLICY THAN ACHILLE-FOULD IS A CRITIC. MUCH OF DISCUSSION CONSISTED OF TRYING TO CUT THROUGH LOFTY DECLARATIONS OF PRINCIPLE AND EXHORTATIONS BY TENENOIRE CALLING ON UNITED STATES TO FOLLOW FRANCE IN DOING OUR DUTY TO AFRICA AND WORLD. HOWEVER, SOME OF HIS VIEWS ARE WORTH REPORTING.

2. TENENOIRE APPEARED FULLY PERSUADED OF UNITY AND STRENGTH OF BIAFRAN NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS WHICH HAS BEEN FORGED BY THEIR ORDEAL. HE COULD NOT CONCEIVE OF BIAFRANS EVER LOSING THIS NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS OR ALLOWING NON-BIAFRANS TO CONTROL THEM OR THEIR TERRITORY. PRESSED ON WHETHER THIS NECESSARILY MEANS BIAFRAN SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE, TENENOIRE REVERTED TO USUAL FRENCH CONFEDERATION FORMULA BUT SAID THAT ACTUAL SUBSTANCE OF CONFEDERAL FORM (E.G. WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR FOREIGN POLICY, ETC.) WOULD HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED BETWEEN GOWAN AND OJUKWU.

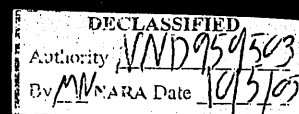
3. TENENOIRE MAINTAINED NECESSITY FOR PLEBISCITE AS ONLY MEANS ASSURING BIAFRAN RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION. HOWEVER, WHEN QUESTIONED, HE SAID HE THOUGHT BIAFRA MIGHT BE WILLING ACCEPT.

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PARIS-2456
2-19-69

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGER
TR LEG 7 DIGGS
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 676

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01509 191428Z

42
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15,SSO: 00,CCO: 00,NSCE 00,USIE 00,CIAE 00,JPM 04,H 02,INR 07,
L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,IO 13,AID 28,SR 01,
ORM 03,RSR 01, /132 W

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O 191129Z FEB 69 ZFF-6
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5050
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1509

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FOR MRN 1509 VICE 1505 & TEXT)

SUBJECT: GOWON'S ROLE IN NIGERIAN WAR

JOINT EMBASSY/DATT MESSAGE

REF: LAGOS 1494, STATE 026211

1. MEETINGS OF FEB 13 AND 17 BETWEEN CODEL DIGGS AND GOWON, COUPLED WITH FACT THAT GOWON MADE HIS FIRST VISIT TO A DIVISION HQ ON FEB 18, TEMPT US TO INDULGE IN SOME SPECULATION.

2. IN BOTH MEETINGS WITH CODEL GOWON STRESSED DESIRE FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF NIGERIAN PROBLEM. AS NOTED IN REFTEL, WE BELIEVE SECOND MEETING INSPIRED BY GOWON'S DESIRE TO HEAR IF OJUKWU HAD GIVEN ANY INDICATION TO CODEL OF READINESS TO NEGOTIATE. GOWON'S REACTION TO CODEL'S NEGATIVE RESPONSE WAS SOMBER, AND HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE REGRETTED THAT HE WAS GIVEN NO ALTERNATIVE TO PURSUING THE WAR MILITARILY.

3. WHILE GOWON MADE NO MENTION OF IT DURING THE FEB 17 MEETING, HE MADE TRIP TO ENUGU THE FOLLOWING DAY TO MEET

CONFIDENTIAL

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Authority VND959503
By MVA/ARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 01509 191428Z

WITH COL. SHUWA, CO OF 1ST DIVISION. THIS WAS THE FIRST SUCH VISIT AS FAR AS WE KNOW, AND WE UNDERSTAND HE WILL MAKE UNANNOUNCED VISITS TO QTE ALL FRONTS UNQTE IN NEAR FUTURE. PRIMARY PURPOSE, ACCORDING TO DATT SOURCES, IS TO BOLSTER MORALE OF TROOPS. HE OBVIOUSLY IS NOT CONFINING HIMSELF TO THIS ACTIVITY ALONE, HOWEVER.

4. WE ARE STRUCK BY THE POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS OF THE FOREGOING. ANOTHER FACT WHICH MAY BE RELATED IS THAT THE AMBASSADOR HEARD WHILE HE WAS IN KAINJI ON FEB 15 THAT GOWON'S AIRCRAFT WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR THE CODEL ON FEB 17. THIS LEADS US TO BELIEVE THAT GOWON HAD INTENDED TO GO TO ENUGU ON THE 17TH BUT PUT THE TRIP OFF IN ORDER TO GIVE CODEL OPPORTUNITY TO SEE ENUGU AND CALABAR AND IN ORDER TO HAVE LAST CONVERSATION WITH DIGGS.

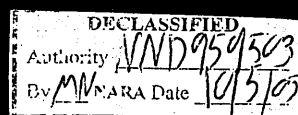
5. THE CONCLUSION TO WHICH THIS ALL COULD LEAD IS THAT GOWON HAS BEEN PUTTING OFF A FINAL DECISION IN THE HOPE THAT OJUKWU WOULD SEE THE FUTILITY OF FURTHER RESISTANCE AND THAT HE HAS NOW CONCLUDED THAT HE MUST GIVE THE SIGNAL TO GO ALL OUT FOR A MILITARY SOLUTION.

6. WE DO NOT RPT NOT MAINTAIN THAT THE FOREGOING CONCLUSION IS INESCAPABLE. WE DO, HOWEVER, BELIEVE THAT IT IS LOGICALLY POSSIBLE, AND WE WILL BE WATCHING WITH INTEREST TO SEE IF IT DEVELOPS IN THAT WAY.

7. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUESTED IN STATE 026211 WILL BE FORWARDED AS AVAILABLE.
GP-3 MATHEWS

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 931

*Page 15-39
2-19-69*

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01539 191757Z

47
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSA 00,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01,
SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CCO 00, RSR 01, ACDA 16, /153 W
025848

P R 191632Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5068
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1539

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: CARITAS VIEWS

1. I CALLED LATE YESTERDAY ON MONSIGNOR JEAN RODHAIN, PRESIDENT OF CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS, WHO IS ON TEN DAY VISIT TO NIGERIA TO MEET FMG OFFICIALS AND TO OBSERVE CATHOLIC RELIEF ACTIVITIES IN FEDERAL TERRITORY.
2. RODHAIN HAS ALREADY SEEN SEVERAL FMG COMMISSIONERS AND HAS RECEIVED BARRAGE OF CRITICISM FROM THEM. HE SAID HE HAS LISTENED PATIENTLY EXCEPT WHEN CARITAS ACCUSED OF INVOLVEMENT IN ARMS TRAFFIC WHICH CHARGE HE IMMEDIATELY AND FORCEFULLY REJECTED.
3. COMMISSIONER EXTAFF ARIKPO TOLD RODHAIN FMG HAD ACCEPTED PROPOSAL OF US CONGRESSMAN FOR DELIVERY RELIEF SUPPLIES TO REBEL TERRITORY BY DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS AND LAND CORRIDOR AND WAS SO INFORMING EMPEROR WHO ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH PROPOSAL. ARIKPO APPEALED TO RODHAIN TO USE HIS INFLUENCE WITH OJUKWU TO OBTAIN HIS ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL. ATTORNEY GENERAL ELIAS SUBSEQUENTLY MADE SAME APPEAL AND OPINED CARITAS COULD EXERCISE MAJOR INFLUENCE ON REBELS. RODHAIN TOLD BOTH THAT HE HAD NEVER BEEN IN REBEL TERRITORY AND HAD NO PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH OJUKWU BUT WOULD BE WILLING TO GO TO UMUAHIA IF FMG THOUGHT

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CONFIDENTIAL 22

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Authority VND959503
By MVA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 01539 191757Z

THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL.

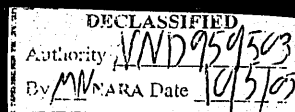
4. RODHAIN SAID TO ME THAT HE DID NOT WISH TO DO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT INTERFERE WITH US CONGRESSMAN'S PROPOSAL AND ASKED WHETHER I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF HE WENT TO UMUAHIA. I EXPLAINED THAT CONGRESSMAN'S PROPOSAL WAS PRIVATE, NOT USG, INITIATIVE ALTHOUGH USG AWARE OF PROPOSAL AND HOPED IT WOULD BE ACCEPTED. MY PERSONAL OPINION WAS THAT VISIT BY RODHAIN TO OJUKWU TO URGE LATTER TO ACCEPT DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS WOULD GREATLY IMPROVE CHANCES THAT REBELS WOULD ACCEPT PROPOSAL.

5. I COMMENTED THAT AS NIGHT RELIEF FLIGHTS WOULD BECOME MORE DIFFICULT AS FMG CAPABILITY TO ATTACK ULI AIRSTRIP AT NIGHT IMPROVED, NEED TO ARRANGE DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS WAS INCREASINGLY URGENT. RODHAIN EMPHATICALLY AGREED. HE SAID HE HAD ATTENDED MEETING OF CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES IN COPENHAGEN ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO CONSENSUS OF WHICH WAS THAT NIGHT FLIGHTS SHOULD BE REPLACED SOONEST BY DAY FLIGHTS. IT HAD EVEN BEEN PROPOSED THAT JCA SEND LETTER TO OJUKWU INFORMING HIM THAT NIGHT RELIEF FLIGHTS WOULD CEASE ON A SPECIFIED DATE. RODHAIN AND OTHERS HAD OBJECTED TO SUCH DRASTIC STEP. RODHAIN ENUMERATED DISADVANTAGES OF NIGHT RELIEF FLIGHTS AS FOLLOWS: ONE ILLEGAL, TWO INCREASINGLY DANGEROUS, THREE VERY COSTLY, FOUR INTERMINGLED WITH ARMS FLIGHTS AND FIVE INADEQUATE TO MEET ANTICIPATED RELIEF NEEDS.

6. I AGREED WITH RODHAIN THAT CESSATION NIGHT FLIGHTS WITHOUT ALTERNATE RELIEF ARRANGEMENTS COULD NOT BE JUSTIFIED. I HAD HOWEVER BEEN THINKING OF ANOTHER MOVE WHICH MIGHT BREAK DEADLOCK OVER DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. IF JCA AND ICRC WOULD AGREE TO ANNOUNCE THAT DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS WERE TO BEGIN ON SPECIFIED DATE AND PLANES ACTUALLY TOOK OFF FOR ULI, I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR OJUKWU TO REFUSE TO LET PLANES LAND. RODHAIN PICKED UP THIS IDEA WITH SUCH ALARCITY THAT I BELIEVE HE HAD BEEN THINKING ALONG SAME LINES HIMSELF. HE SAID HE BELIEVED RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD AGREE TO PROCEED ON THIS COURSE IN NEAR FUTURE AND MENTIONED MARCH 14 AS TARGET DATE FOR BEGINNING DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS.

CONFIDENTIAL

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 03 LAGOS 01539 191757Z

7. IT WAS INTERESTING THAT DESPITE VIEWS JCA SAO THOME (GENEVA 437) AND JCA GENEVA (GENEVA 471) RODHAIN DID NOT TAKE POSITION THAT REPRESENTATIONS TO FMG TO CEASE HARRASSMENT NIGHT FLIGHTS WOULD BE JUSTIFIED OR EFFECTIVE.

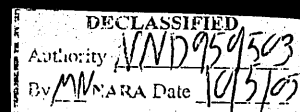
8. I COMMENTED ON CONFLICTING REPORTS RE MAGNITUDE OF CARBOHYDRATE SHORTAGE IN EBEL TERRITORY AND ASKED RODHAIN FOR CARITAS VIEWS. HE SAID BASED ON REPORTS FROM MISSIONARIES IN REBEL TERRITORY HE BELIEVED THERE WOULD BE SERIOUS CARBOHYDRATE SHORTAGE IN NEAR FUTURE. LARGE NUMBER OF INHABITANTS REBEL TERRITORY HAD BEEN DISPLACED FROM USUAL ABODES AND APPARENTLY WERE NOT PLANTING CROPS IN NEW LOCATIONS. RODHAIN WAS CRITICAL OF REBEL REGIME WHICH HE SAID HAD CONSISTENTLY DISREGARDED ADVICE OF MISSIONARIES AND OTHERS TO MOUNT EXTENSIVE CAMPAIGN TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO PLANT CROPS WHEREVER THEY MIGHT BE. REGIME WOULD DO NOTHING WHICH IT FEARED WOULD DETRACT FROM WAR EFFORT.

9. RODHAIN EXPRESSED GREAT CONCERN OVER HEALTH PROSPECTS CHILDREN IN REBEL TERRITORY. HE CITED PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED WITH CHILDREN EVACUATED TO GABON. CARITAS HAD OPPOSED EVACUATION CONCEPT FOR AFTER 750 CHILDREN ARRIVED IN GABON WITHOUT PROPER ARRANGEMENTS FOR CARE, CARITAS HAD PROVIDED MEDICAL TEAMS, DRUGS AND FOOD. CHILDREN HAD SHOWN GRATIFYING RESPONSE TO TREATMENT AND FOOD DURING FIRST TWO MONTHS, BUT MEDICAL TEAM HAD SUBSEQUENTLY NOTED HIGH INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS AND OTHER DISEASES.

10. COMMENT: RODHAIN'S VIEWS ON DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS TAKEN TOGETHER WITH THOSE EXPRESSED BY FREYMOND, ACTING PRESIDENT ICRC (4TH PARAGRAPH GENEVA 466), WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE REAL POSSIBILITY OF COOPERATION AMONG RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS TO PRESS DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS ON OJUKWU.
GP-3 MATHEWS

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PO 27-9 BIAMA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 833

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00479 191512Z

49
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07,
L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIE 00, AID 28, SR
ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, UPW 01, RSR 01, /138 W

029207

P R 191452Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 357
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 479

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC BUDGET

REF: GENEVA 466, PARA 1.

1. ICRC HAS CALLED INFORMAL MEETING GENEVA REPS POTENTIAL DONOR COUNTRIES FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21 AT 1100 HOURS.

2. US REP WOULD PROPOSE INFORM MEETING THAT USG GIVING ICRC BUDGET CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND WILL ADVISE ICRC AMOUNT ITS CONTRIBUTION AS SOON AS DECISION MADE. REP WOULD ALSO PROPOSE COMMENT THAT USG WOULD APPRECIATE ALL FORESEEABLE ICRC RELIEF EXPENDITURES BEING COVERED BY BUDGET TO AVOID NECESSITY PIECE MEAL REQUESTS IN FUTURE; REQUESTS FOR FUNDS BEYOND BUDGET, SUCH AS MIGHT BE MADE TO MEET MARKED CHANGES IN OVERALL RELIEF SITUATION, SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO ALL DONORS AND NOT ONLY TO ONE (US) OR A FEW.

3. WOULD WELCOME ANY ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE DEPT/AID MAY WISH TO PROVIDE.
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GENEVA-479
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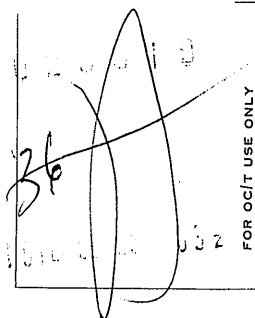
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DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND959503
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification



Origin: ACTION: Miss Cherri Brantner
Info: 203 Coffman Memorial Union
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

The President has asked me to reply to your informative letter of February 5 about the activities of the International Relief Fund at the University of Minnesota. On behalf of President Nixon, I commend the humanitarian efforts of your organization in aid of those afflicted on both sides of the Nigerian civil war. I wish you every success for the day you have set aside in dedication to the children who have become innocent victims of war. That your supporters in a nation of plenty are willing to deny themselves to help those without the necessities of life in a war-ravaged land, once again confirms the dedication of today's youth to the cause of international brotherhood.

Your government shares your profound sympathy for the suffering and is doing all within its power to maintain and increase the flow of relief supplies. Your interest and involvement supports and gives impetus to our efforts.

President Nixon regrets he is unable to be with you on February 21, but has asked me to send his personal wishes for continued success in your work.

JOSEPH PALMER 2nd
Assistant Secretary of State for African
Affairs, Dept. of State, Washington, D.C.

Drafted by: [Signature] Tel. Ext. 7573 Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Joseph Palmer 2nd
AE/W:RWFaville:emb 2/19/69
Clearances: Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

FORM DS-322
8-65

0382

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 954503
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy OSLO **PRIORITY**

- info:

INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA
Amembassy LAGOS ✓
USUN NEW YORK ✓
US Mission GENEVA ✓

STATE

SUBJ: Draft Norwegian Resolution - Kennedy Proposal

REF: OSLO 695; USUN 435; USUN 393

1. You may inform Arnesen DEPT sees considerable merit in draft Norwegian proposal for ad hoc committee to study emergency relief problems. Difficulty as Norwegians fully aware is to develop idea in manner which ~~would provide useful basis for help and which~~ ~~Nigeria imposed conditions which~~ would not lead to automatic rejection by FMG and other independent Africans who support FMG.

2. We believe it would be mistake for GON to move too quickly with proposal, and that it might be better wait until 24th UNGA to advance suggestion. Neither ECOSOC in May nor Red Cross conference in September seems to us to provide best forum to achieve purpose, although we recognize unique role of Red Cross

Drafted by: <i>W. E. Briggs</i> IO/OES: SLee/UNP:EEBriggs:jc Cleared by:	Tel. Ext. 2-18-69	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: <i>W. E. Briggs</i>	Walter M. Kotschnig Deputy Chief of Police
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IO/UNP - Miss Brown
IO/OES - Mr. Graham
EUR/SCAN - Mr. Storing

AF/I - Mr. Cromwell *ke*

AF/W - Mr. ~~McDougal~~
McDougal

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Classification

FORM DS-322
B-65

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Authority VND 939/503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/0



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 025

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01478 181527Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, NEA 13, E 15, /178 W

018323

R 181501Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5030
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1478

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: GENEVA 466

1. RE PARAGRAPH 2 REFTEL ALTHOUGH THIS EMBASSY HAS NOT RECEIVED STATE 25128 I CAN APPRECIATE THAT THERE ARE MANY REASONS WHY USG WOULD NOT WANT C-97GS SOLD TO ICRC TO BE USED FOR RELIEF FLIGHTS TO YEMEN OR ADEN.

2. I HOPE, HOWEVER, THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO AVOID ANY PUBLICITY ON THIS SUBJECT. ONE OF PRINCIPAL NIGERIAN COMPLAINTS IS THAT AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN HUMANITARIAN CONCERN CONCENTRATES ON NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR AND DISREGARDS HUMAN SUFFERING ELSEWHERE IN WORLD. HOWEVER SPECIOUS THIS COMPLAINT IT WOULD NOT BE IN USG INTEREST TO ADD FUEL TO FIRE.
GP-4 MATHEWS

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Authority VMD 950503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

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POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 732

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00467 181140Z

12
ACTION SS 70

INFO CIAE 00, /070 W

017149

R 181105Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 344

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 467

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: LINDT'S PROBABLE EARLY RETURN TO MOSCOW.

1. UNDERSTAND FROM FREYMOND, ACTING PRESIDENT ICRC, AND FROM LINDT HIMSELF THAT LATTER MAY SOON BE RETURNING TO POST AS SWISS AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW. LINDT SAID BERN ANXIOUS HE RETURN THERE, EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FINISH JOB AS ICRC HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR WEST AFRICA.

2. BELIEVE WE SHOULD HOLD THIS CLOSE FOR TIME BEING SO AS NOT TO PREJUDICE LINDT'S ACTIVITIES IN NIGERIA AND BIAFRA PENDING HIS RETURN TO MOSCOW.

3. WHILE FREYMOND AND OTHERS AT ICRC RECOGNIZE THAT LINDT DID OUTSTANDING JOB IN MANY WAYS IN ORGANIZING GRATLY EXPANDED ICRC OPERATIONS DESPITE MANY FRUSTRATIONS, IT IS FELT THAT HE DOES NOT NOW ENJOY AS CORDIAL RELATIONS AS ARE DESIRABLE WITH SOME TOP OFFICIALS IN NIGERIA AND BIAFRA.

WILL BE KEEPING CLOSE CHECK WITH FREYMOND NOT ONLY ON REPLACEMENT BUT ON REORGANIZATION OF ICRC OPERATIONS. TUBBY

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 By MWA Date 10/3/05

GENEVA - 467
 2-18-69

L I M D I S
I N C O M I N G

TOP SECRET

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Summary 3
Task Force 3

AF5 5
ARA 9
EA 11
EUR 10 10
NEA 8

ACDA 5
AID/EXSEC 3
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AA/VN 2
AA/EA 3
AA/NESA 2

Functional

Principals

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OTHER AGENCIES

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

2-18-69
1483

CONFIDENTIAL 561

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01483 182207Z

85
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, E 15, SCS 04, SCA 01, ORM 03, SR 01, AID 28, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, /164 W

020428

R 0181550Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5033
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1483

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF; FMG ATTITUDE TOWARD ICRC FLIGHTS
NDOM COTONOU.

1. UKHC HAS PASSED US FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM UK AMBASSADOR
TO TOGO WHO RECENTLY VISITED COTONOU:

2. BEGIN QUOTE: NIGERIAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN COTONOU STATES
THAT ALL NIGHT FLIGHTS ARE CONSIDERED ILLEGAL BY FMG AND THAT
THEREFORE THEY REFUSE OFFER OF DAHOMEYANS TO ALLOW INSPECTION
OF CARGOES. HOWEVER, THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE SOME A
GREEMENT
ON THESE FLIGHTS AS AT FIRST THE ICRC PLANES KEPT OVER THE
SEA UNTIL THEY JOINED THE NORMAL FLIGHT PATH FROM FERNANDO
PO TO ULI, WHEREAS I AM INFORMED ON GOOD AUTHORITY THEY
ARE NOW FLYING OVER FEDERAL TERRITORY ALL THE WAY.
IT IS PERHAPS SIGNIFICANT THAT SHELL, WHO ARE
RESPONSIBLE FOR FUELLING ALL AIRCRAFT AT COTONOU
AIRPORT, WERE HAVING CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN
GETTING SUPPLIES THROUGH BY ROAD FROM NIGERIA BUT
SINCE FEB. 14 ALL THEIR LORRIES ARE PASSING THE FRONTIER
FREELY.

3. SOME VEHICLE FUEL IS BEING FLOWN INTO BIAFRA BY
ICRC BUT QUANTITIES ARE BELIEVED TO BE SMALL. ACCORDING

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48

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

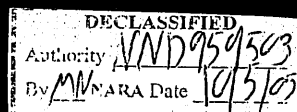
PAGE 02 LAGOS 01483 182207Z

TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN COTONOU THE DAHOMEYAN
AUTHORITIES WILL KEEP A STRICT CONTROL ON THE AMOUNT OF
SUCH FUEL TRANSPORTED BY ICRC. END QUOTE.

4. COMMENT: WE NOTE THAT ALTHOUGH DIRECT ROUTE,
COTONOU-ULI, SAVES TIME AND FUEL, IT IS AT LEAST HALF
OVER WATER, AVOIDS LAGOS AND NOT ENTIRELY OVER FMG
TERRITORY AS SUGGESTED IN BRITISH MESSAGE.
GP-3 MATHEWS

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0388



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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 675

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00160 181035Z

21
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28,

RSR 01, SR 01, ORM 03, UPW 01, /150 W

016870

R 180930Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2345
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL LIBREVILLE 160

REF LIBREVILLE 134 AND 072 - POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SUBJ BIAFRAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF

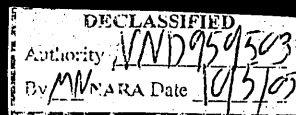
1. CATCHPOOL UNABLE PROVIDE GUSSMAN WITH REQUESTED RESUME
CURRENT BIAFRAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF EFFORTS GABON (LBVL 158)
IN TIME FOR GUSSMAN CALL AT DEPT IF IT TO BE THIS WEEK.
CATCHPOOL HAS VERY LITTLE TO ADD, HOWEVER, TO INFO CONTAINED
REFTELS, SITUATION HAVING CHANGED VERY LITTLE.

2. ACCORDING RESUME PREPARED BY CATCHPOOL (BEING POUCHED
DEPT), MAIN BOTTLENECK IS NOW FRENCH MILITARY HOSPITAL
THROUGH WHICH ALL ARRIVING CHILDREN MUST PASS AND WHICH UNDER
PRESENT COMMAND RESTRICTING INTAKE TO 60 CHILDREN PER WEEK.
GERMAN CARITAS PROTESTANT CHURCH CENTER CONTINUING EXPAND
AND NOW HAS 60 EMPTY BEDS. TERRE DES HOMMES-MOUEMENT
MONDIAL DES MEREE-GABONESE RED CROSS PROJECT STILL NOT OFF
GROUND. ORDER OF MALTA NOW HAS PERMISSION FROM GOG AND GOIC
FLY 1,000 CHILDREN IVORY COAST, BUT OPERATION HAS NOT BEGUN.
NEW ELEMENT IS BIAFRAN AND GOG INSISTENCE HOUSING FOR CHILDREN
MUST BE IMPROVED, COVERTED CHURCHES AND POLICE SCHOOLS AND
TENTS AT MILITARY HOSPITAL BEING CONSIDERED INADEQUATE.

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Libreville 160
2-18-69

0389





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIBREV 00160 181035Z

THIS REQUIREMENT BEING MET BY GERMAN CARITAS-PROTESTANT CHURCH
CENTER AND BY FRENCH MILITARY HOSPITAL, BUT HOW IT TO BE MET BY
OTHER CENTERS REMAINS BE SEEN. GP 3 BANE

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-
NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
XR DEF 12-5 BIAFRA

CONFIDENTIAL 637

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00161 181011Z

17
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03, UPW 01, AID 28, SCS 04,

SCA 01, RSR 01, /150 W

016758

R 180935Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2346
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
CINCSTRIKE
DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL LIBREVILLE 161

CITE SICR D-CDB-21909

SUBJ BIAFRAN AIRLIFT

1. WE TOLD THERE AN ARMS FLIGHT NIGHT FEB 14-15 AND THAT
AIRCRAFT RETURNED WITH 30 CHILDREN, TWO OF WHOM DIED FEW
HOURS AFTER ARRIVAL HERE. PRESUME AIRCRAFT INVOLVED WAS
DC-3 439B.

2. OTHER POSSIBLE ARMS FLIGHTS: DC-4 TR-LNY NIGHT FEB 15-16,
DC-4 F-BBDD NIGHT FEB 16-17, AND DC-3 439B NIGHT FEB 17-18.

3. ONLY PROBABLY RELIEF FLIGHT W ABLE DETECT PAST FEW
NIGHTS WAS DC-4 F-BRHQ NIGHT FEB 17-18. GP 3 BANE

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75



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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CONFIDENTIAL 743

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00466 181145Z

22
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, UPW 01, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 150 W

R 181104Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 343
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 466

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: (A) STATE 024238
(B) STATE 025128

1. FREYMOND, ACTING PRESIDENT ICRC, HAS AGREED CALL INFORMAL MEETING FRIDAY WITH GENEVA REPS. POTENTIAL DONOR COUNTRIES PER RECOMMENDATION REFTEL A.

2. FREYMOND SAID UNDERSTOOD U.S. POSITION REFTEL B AND AGREED THERE BE NO USE OF C-97GS FOR RELIEF FLIGHTS TO YEMEN OR ADEN.

3. FREYMOND SAID HOPES WILL HAVE U.S. RESPONSE TO BUDGET APPEAL ASAP. SAID WOULD HELP IN LINING UP SUPPORT FROM OTHER GOVTS. YESTERDAY HE WAS TOLD PRIVATELY BY SWEDES, DANES AND DUTCH THAT THEY WOULD MAKE RELATIVELY SIZEABLE CONTRIBUTIONS AND HE BELIEVES SWISS WILL ALSO.

4. IN VIEW OF INCREASED INTERFERENCE NIGHT FLIGHTS INTO ULI BY FMG, FREYMOND PLANS INCREASE PRESSURE FOR DAY FLIGHTS INTO BIAFRA. WILL MAKE REPRESENTATIONS "NOT PUBLICLY AND IN A DELICATE WAY TO OJUKWU." FREYMOND ADDED THAT HE FELT OJUKWU SHOULD NOT EXPECT GOVTS AND VOLAGS TO GO ON AND ON POURING OUT HUGE AMOUNTS OF MONEY FOR RELIEF OPERATIONS WHILE HE STUBBORNLY REFUSES OPEN WAY FOR EXPANDED OPERATIONS BY DAY OR THROUGH A LAND CORRIDOR.

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7

GENEVA-
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By: MN NARA Date: 10/3/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00466 181145Z

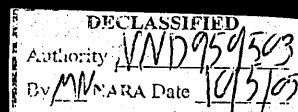
TM FREYMOND AND LINDT HOLDING PRESS CONFERENCE THURSDAY AND WILL REVIEW ICRC PROGRAM AND STRESS ACHIEVEMENTS WHICH THEY CONSIDER CONSIDERABLE TO AREAS ON BOTH SIDES OF FIGHTING. FREYMOND EXPRESSED SOME SENSITIVITY TO MORE SUCCESSFUL CHURCH PUBLIC RELATIONS OPERATIONS BUT GRANTED ICRC HAS NOT DONE AS WELL AS IT SHOULD IN MAKING CLEAR WHAT ITS OWN ACHIEVEMENTS HAVE BEEN.

6. IN MY MEETING WITH LINDT THIS MORNING HE SAID HE HOPED TO GET FOOD ASSESSMENT TEAM ESTABLISHED BEFORE HE RETURNS TO NIGERIA.

7. I ASKED HIM ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS WITH EQUATORIAL GUINEA. HE EXPRESSED SOME HOPE THAT AN EXTENSION COULD BE OBTAINED BEYOND THE 30 DAY LIMIT RECENTLY GRANTED. HOWEVER, SAID MINISTER OF INTERIOR IS THE MOST HOSTILE TO ICRC AND QUESTION REALLY IS WHETHER HE OR FOREIGN MINISTER WILL PREVAIL. THE LATTER FAVORS LONGER RANGE ICRC OPERATION. LINDT SAID THAT FROM NOW ON ICRC IS PAYING GEG FOR SERVICES IN CONNECTION RELIEF FLIGHTS SANTA ISABEL, LEAVING IT FOR GEG TO WORK OUT PAYMENTS TO SPANISH PERSONNEL INVOLVED. SAID GEG IS DEMANDING 4 MILLION SPANISH PESETAS AS RETROACTIVE FEES. THIS WOULD DUPLICATE FEES ALREADY PAID TO SPANISH NATIONALS ON FERNANDO PO. LINDT BELIEVES POSSIBLE NEGOTIATIONS THIS MATTER MAY GIVE ICRC SOME LEVERAGE TOWARDS EXTENSION SANTA ISABEL OPERATIONS. TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

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75



POL 27-9 BIAFRA NIGERIA
Department of State
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 238

GENEVA-471
2-18-69

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00471 181735Z

43
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02,

INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12,

RSR 01, SCA 01, SCS 04, UPW 01, 150 W

019004

R 181640Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 347
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY LOME 53
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USINT SANTA ISABEL

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 471

SUBJECT: JCA SAO Airlift

REF: GENEVA 437

1. CRS REPORTS JCA COMPLETED FLIGHT RECORD NIGHTS FEBRUARY 12 THROUGH 16 AS FOLLOWS:

FEBRUARY	TOTAL	C-97G'S	TONS
12	9	4	87.0
13	2	0	17.0
14	4	1	35.0
15	8	2	77.0
16	5	0	40.0

2. FOUR DAMAGED PLANES (REFTEL) STILL NOT RETURNED TO SERVICE.

3. "INTRUDER" AIRCRAFT CONTINUES ACTIVE, AND ACCORDING WORD RECEIVED BY CRS FROM JCA/USA (KINNEY) AND YESTERDAY FROM SAO

CONFIDENTIAL
23

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By MN NARA Date 10/3/05



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00471 181735Z

TOME (VIA CARITAS ROME) IS CONCENTRATING "WAR OF NERVES" ON "US" C-97G'S. FOR EXAMPLE PILOT (MOST RECENTLY SAID TO BE "FLEMISH SOUTH AFRICAN") TOLD TRANSVIA PLANE BY RADIO THAT HE REALLY WANTED TO BOMB "US PLANES" (TRANSVIA IS EUROPEAN COMPANY UNDER NORDCHURCHARD CHARTER).

4. LOW NUMBER COMPLETED C-97G FLIGHTS APPARENTLY DUE HARASSMENT AND EFFECT ON CREW. ACCORDING CRS INFO ALL BUT ONE C-97G CREW ARE LEAVING OPERATION. NEW CREWS BEING RECRUITED. JCA HOPES SOME WILL SOON ARRIVE SAO TOME.

5. CRS (WHICH SERVES AS JCA REP GENEVA, JCA INFORMATION SERVICE, AND JCA/US LINK WITH JCA) REPORTS THAT MEETING EXPECTED TAKE PLACE AMSTERDAM TOMORROW BETWEEN REPS JCAUS, FLIGHT TEST RESEARCH, AND MOLLERUP GROUP IN NORDCHURCHARD TO DISCUSS SITUATION (CRS HAS NOT INFORMED ALL JCA MEMBERS OF THIS). CRS UNDERSTANDS MOLLERUP VIEW IS THAT PRESSURE ON C-97G'S IS SIMPLY PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND THAT FMG FOR POLITICAL REASONS WOULD BE MOST RELUCTANT ACTUALLY ATTACK US-CONTRIBUTED PLANES (DOUBTFULLY APPEALING "SOLUTION" IMPLICIT IN THIS WOULD SEEM TO BE THAT C-97G'S SHOULD CALL "INTRUDER'S" BLUFF).

6. CRS HAS BEEN INFORMED BY JCA/US THAT SENATORS GOODALL AND PEARSON EXPECT TO CALL UPON FMG TO STOP HARASSMENT RELIEF FLIGHTS, AND UPON BIAFRA TO DESIGNATE AIRDROP AREAS.

7. CRS HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY JCA/US TO REPORT ON ACTIONS BY JCA MEMBERS TO PROTEST, OR GET THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO PROTEST, FMG HARASSMENT. CRS INFORMS MISSION IT KNOWS SO FAR ONLY ON GERMAN JCA MEMBERS' PUBLICITY (PARA 4 REFTEL) AND ITS OWN MILD RELEASE OF FOLLOWING DAY, WHICH CALLED ATTENTION TO INCREASING INTERFERENCE WITH FLIGHTS OVER ULI BUT REFRAINED FROM EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO FMG.

TUBBY

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Origin
Info

ACTION: USINT SANTA ISABEL
Amembassy ADDIS ABABA
INFO : Amembassy COTONOU
" LAGOS
" LOME
" MADRID
" YAOUNDE

PRIORITY
PRIORITY

10 FEB 69 10 44z

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STATE)

Embassy Addis requested

Equatorial Guinea who

1. ~~XXXX~~ transmit following message to Foreign Minister/ ~~XXXX~~
is in Addis attend OAU meeting. Begin Quote
Dear Mr. Minister:

I should like to convey the congratulations of the US Government
for your government's decision which resulted in the resumption of the ICRC
relief flights from Fernando Po to the suffering civilian population in
Eastern Nigeria. This statesmanlike decision, taken in recognition of
the deep humanitarian considerations which we discussed in our meeting
here, will gratify responsible governments and concerned citizens
throughout the world. It is my sincere hope that your government and
the ICRC will be able to work out a mutually advantageous plan for the
further continuance of these mercy flights.

D Sincerely,

William P. Rogers

Secretary of State End QUOTE

2. Translation follows: BEGIN QUOTE

Drafted by:

AFCW:MLCook/mfc 2/17/69

Tel. Ext.
4323

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

The Secretary

Clearances:

AF - Ambassador Moore (subst.)

AF/CW - Mr. Schaufele

~~XXXX~~

S/S - Mr. Brown

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8-65 DS-322

0396

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Authority VMD 954503
By MNARA Date 10/3/05

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Origin

ACTION:

Info:

Page 2 of Telegram to USINT SANTA ISABEL and ADDIS ABABA

ESTIMADO SENOR MINISTRO:

DESEARIA TRANSMITIR LAS FELICITACIONES DEL GOBIERNO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS POR LA DECISION DE VUESTRO GOBIERNO QUE DIERA POR RESULTADO LA REANUDACION DE LOS VUELOS DE SOCORRO DEL COMITE INTERNACIONAL DE LA CRUZ ROJA DESDE FERNANDO PO CON DESTINO A LA SUFRIENTE POBLACION CIVIL EN NIGERIA ORIENTAL. ESTA DECISION, DE ELEVADO CORTE ESTADISTA, TOMADA EN RECONOCIMIENTO DE LAS PROFUNDAS CONSIDERACIONES HUMANAS A LAS QUE HEMOS ALUDIDO DURANTE NUESTRA REUNION AQUI SERA MOTIVO DE COMPLACENCIA PARA GOBIERNOS RESPONSABLES Y CIUDADANOS A QUIENES EN TODO EL MUNDO PREOCUPA ESTA SITUACION. ES MI SINCERO DESEO QUE VUESTRO GOBIERNO Y EL COMITE INTERNACIONAL DE LA CRUZ ROJA PUEDAN FORMULAR UN PLAN RECIPROCAMENTE VENTAJOSOS PARA LA CONTINUACION DE ESTOS VUELOS MISERICORDIOSOS.

MUY SINCERAMENTE,

WILLIAM P. ROGERS

SECRETARIO DE ESTADO

3. Dept does not plan release but has no objection if GOEG desires to do so.

ROGERS

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

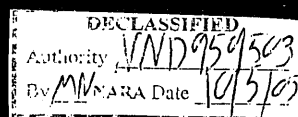
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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 421

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00476 01 OF 02 182004Z

43
ACTION AID 28

INFO IO 13, AF 12, EUR 15, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, ECA 01, UPW 01, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 00

SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, IGA 02, OB 01, BOB 01, TRSY 11, 159 W
019717

R 181802Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 349
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 476

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC BUDGET

REF: GENEVA 410

1. ICRC MET WITH REPS SIXTEEN NATIONAL RC SOCIETIES AND LICROSS FEBRUARY 17 AND PRESENTED PLAN FOR MARCH-AUGUST PERIOD. MEETING ACCEPTED PLAN, SUBJECT TO IMPROVEMENTS IN PRESENTATION, AS BASIS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. DISCUSSION LEADING UP TO EVENTUAL "ACCEPTANCE" FEATURED CONSIDERABLE CRITICISM ICRC OPERATIONS.

2. ICRC ACTING PRESIDENT FREYMOND, OPENING DISCUSSION, SUGGESTED THAT SENATOR KENNEDY TO CONTRARY (IN SPEECH SUGGESTING UN RELIEF FORE) PRIVATE ORGANIZATION COULD COPE WITH RELIEF IN SUCH EMERGENCIES AS NIGERIA/BIAFRA, BUT COOPERATION ESSENTIAL. URGED ALL CONTRIBUTE TO AND COOPERATE WITHIN ICRC PROGRAM. LINDT FOLLOWED WITH SUMMARY OF PRESENT SITUATION ON BOTH SIDES CONFLICT AND APPEAL TO ALL TO "PULL TOGETHER".

3. SCANDINAVIAN RC REPS AND LICROSS SEC GEN. BEER, IN OBVIOUSLY ORCHESTRATED PRESENTATIONS, EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH ICRC PERFORMANCE.

4. NORWEGIAN SAID ZMORE SUCCESSFUL" CHURCH EFFORTS REFLECTED ADVERSELY ON RC SOCIETIES: PUBLIC DONATIONS GOING TO CHURCHES AND RC HAVING HARD TIME "IN FIGHTING BACK".

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0398

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Authority: VND 950503
By: MN NARA Date: 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00476 01 OF 02 182004Z

5. EER OBSERVED ICRC "PLUSES AND MINUSES" AFFECTED BY LICROSS AND NATIONAL SOCIETIES AS PUBLIC DID NOT DISTINGUISH BETWEEN COMPONENTS INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS. ON PLAN ITSELF, HE SUGGESTED IT BE REVISED TO MAKE IT MORE HELPFUL TO RC SOCIETIES IN RAISING FUNDS. IT SHOULD INCLUDE, FOR EXAMPLE, AN INTRODUCTION ON NIGERIA/BIAFRA AND AN INDICATION OF THE "TOTAL VALUE" PER MONTH OF THE ENTIRE OPERATION (FOOD, CONTRIBUTIONS, VEHICLES, PERSONNEL) SO THAT THE ICRC BUDGET APPEAR WOULD APPEAR PROPERLY AS A SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR CASH. HE ALSO SUGGESTED, MORE VAGUELY THAT ICRC MIGHT PUT THE NEED FOR GREATER EFFORT (INCLUDING LAND OR SEA CORRIDORS) TO THE UN AND THE GREAT POWERS.

6. SWEDISH RC SEC GEN STROH FOLLOWED SIMILAR LINE, CITING "CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE" IN RC IN SWEDEN. STRESSED NEED FOR GREATER ICRC EFFICIENCY FOR SAKE OF PROGRAM AND TO REFURBISH RC IMAGE. PAID TRIBUTE TO LINDT PERSONALLY BUT SAID HE HAD "IMPOSSIBLE JOB"; URGED THAR REPS LICROSS AND NATIONAL SOCIETIES BE INCORPORATED INTO OPERATIONS. SAID TRANSPORT HAD FALLEN SHORT AND THAT TIME HAD COME TO SPEAK UP (HE DID NOT SAY TO WHOM) ON NEED FOR DAY FLIGHTS.

7. FINNISH REP COMPLAINED RC WAS LOSING OUT TO CHURCH IN PUBLIC ESTEEM AND IN FUND RAISING. IN AUGUST-SEPTEMBER FRC GOT 80 PERCENT OF MONEY, CHURCHES 20 PERCENT BUT NOT RATIO REVERSED.

8. ALL ABOVE STRESSED POOR PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICE BY ICRC CONTRIBUTED TO PROBLEM. URGED IMPROVEMENT TO TELL ICRC STORY AND TO GIVE RC SOCIETIES MORE TO WORK WITH. NETHERLANDS REP AND OTHERS JOINED PARTICULARLY ON THIS SCORE.

9. WILSON ARC GAVE LOW KEY SUPPORT TO SCANDINAVIANS-LICROSS PRESENTATIONS, STRESSING NEED FOR MORE INFORMATION TO COMBAT CRITICISM OF RC IN US.

10. FREYMOND CONCEDED ICRC SHORTCOMINGS. ICRC HAD IN PARTICULAR BEEN TOO SLOW IN REALIZING DIMENSIONS OF PROBLEM. HAD MADE POOR START, BUT WAS NOT PERFORMING EFFECTIVELY. PRESENT PLAN REPRESENTED OPPORTUNITY FURTHER IMPROVEMENT. FREYMOND NOTED ICRC HAD TO OPERATE IN CONTEXT GENEVA CONVENTIONS. MUCH CRITICISM DID NOT TAKE THIS INTO CONSIDERATION AND CONSEQUENTLY UNFAIR. FREYMOND AGREED ENTIRELY THAT ICRC INFORMATION SERVICE LEFT MUCH TO BE DESIRED. ICRC WOULD

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Authority	VND 950503
By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 00476 01 OF 02 182004Z

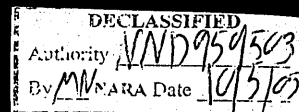
UNTERTAKE IMPROVEMENT ON URGENT BASIS.

11. LINDT ARGUED ALONG SIMILAR LINES, AND ADDED COMMENT THAT PUBLIC MEDIA SEEMED WORRY VERY LITTLE ABOUT THISE IN NEED ON NIGERIAN SIDE. MUCH CRITICISM OF ICRC DERIVED FROM ONE SIDED CONCERN FOR BIAFRA. ICRC OPERATIONS, HE SAID, WAS WORKING -E.G. TWO MISSION PEOPLE BEING FED. MANY CRITICISM WENT BACK TO EARLY DAYS OF OPERATION AND TENDED BE SELF PERPETUATING. HE RGRETTED TENDACY, ESPECIALLY OF PUBLIC MEDIA, TO PRESENT RELIEF EFFORT AS ICRC-CHURCH GROUP COMPETITION SIMILAR TO COMMERCIAL COMPETITION FOR MARKETS.

12. FREYMOND IN CONCLUSION SIAD ICRC HAD TAKEN NOTE SUGGESTIONS AND WOULD HOPE FOR HELP ON SPECIFIC QUESTION FROM LICROSS AND NATIONAL SOCITIES. HOPED CRITICISM WOULD AMOUNT O "NOT JUST WORDS BUT BASIS FOR WORKING TOGETHER".
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88-57-7 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 456

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00476 02 OF 02 182032Z

43

ACTION AID 28

INFO ID 13, EUR 15, AF 12, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, IGA 02, OB 01, BOB 01, TRSY 11, /159 W
----- 019911

R 181802Z FEB 69

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 350

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 476

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC BUDGET

13. IN RESPONSE FREYMOND INQUIRY AS TO WHETHER PARTICIPANTS ACCEPTED PLAN AS BASIS FOR FURTHER WORK, SUBJECT TO IMPROVEMENTS AS REQUESTED, NETHERLANDS AND SWEDISH REPS TOOK LEAD BY INDICATING THEIR SOCIETIES WOULD DO THEIR BEST TO RAISE FUNDS. IT WAS AGREED THAT CONSENSUS OF MEETING WAS THAT PLAN WAS BASIS FOR GOING AHEAD.

14. MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY REPS OF LICROSS AND RC SOCIETIES OF AUSTRIA, DENMARK, US, FINLAND, FRANCE, UK, IRELAND, ITALY, LIBERIA, NIGER, NIGERIA, NORWAY, NETHERLANDS, FRG, SWEDEN, AND SWITZERLAND. MISOFF WAS ONLY NON-RC PERSON PRESENT (AS INVITED OBSERVER).

15. COMMENT: ARC REP WILSON INDICATED TO MISSION CONSIDERABLE PERSONAL AND ARC SYMPATHY FOR SCANDINAVIAN AND LICROSS CRITICAL VIEW ICRC OPERATIONS BUT SAID HE HAD KEPT HIS COMMENTS AT MEETING IN LOW KEY BECAUSE HE DID NOT WISH TO FIND HIMSELF OUT OF STEP WITH HIS GOVERNMENT, WHICH HE "SUSPECTED" WOULD MAKE AN EARLY COMMENT TO COVER HALF OF BUDGET. IMPLIED THAT UPON RETURN TO WASHINGTON HE WOULD URGE DEPARTMENT TO HOLD OFF COMMITMENTS FOR A TIME SO AS NOT TO UNDERCUT LICROSS-NATIONAL SOCIETY PRESSURE ON ICRC TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY.

16. MISSION INCLINED BELIEVE THERE IS ALWAYS ENOUGH PRESSURE ON ICRC AND THAT US COMMITMENT, AS SOON AS ANY SERIOUS US OBJECTIONS OR SIGNIFICANT SUGGESTION ARE MET, WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS IN KEEPING

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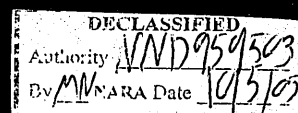
PAGE 02 GENEVA 00476 02 OF 02 182032Z

PROGRAM GOING AND FACILITATING IMPROVEMENTS. ICRC HAD UNDERTAKEN
BE RESPONSIVE TO US SUGGESTIONS (E.G. AS IN STATE 21814, WHICH HAS
BEEN STRESSED TO ICRC, BY AMBASSADOR TO FREYMOND AND LINDT, AND
ALSO AT WORKING LEVEL).

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 COTONO 00185 181109Z

12
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, SR 01, ORM 03,

SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, RSR 01, /150 W

017033

R 181023Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1877
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 185

SUBJECT: ICRC COTONOU OPERATIONS

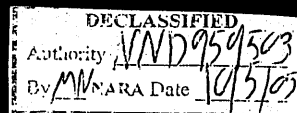
1. ICRC DELIVERED THREE PLANE LOADS OF SUPPLIES TO ULI
NIGHT FEB 17-18. OTHER ATTEMPTED MISSIONS ABORTED DUE
TO TECHNICAL PROBLEMS AT ULI, REPORTEDLY DEFECTIVE BEACONS.

2. THREE PLANES, WHICH DID LAND ULI, RETURNED COTONOU EARLY
MORNING FEB 18 WITH FORTY-SEVEN SEVERELY WOUNDED BIAFRANS -
THIRTY-SEVEN SOLDIERS AND TEN CIVILIANS. WOUNDED DEPARTED
COTONOU VIA DC-7 AT 0700Z FEB 18. BIAFRANS WILL BE
DISTRIBUTED AMONG EUROPEAN HOSPITALS SPECIALIZING IN PLASTIC
SURGERY AND ORTHOPEDICS.

EXEMPT. KNOX

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INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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33
17 FEB 69 20 57
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Origin
Info

ACTION: US Mission GENEVA PRIORITY

Subj: Nigerian Relief: ICRC C-97G's

Ref: Geneva 452

1. Aircraft in question made available to ICRC for Nigeria/Biafra relief.
 2. In letter to Dept, dated Feb 5, ICRC noted conditions of sale and made following commitment: QTE ICRC shall use four Stratofreighters solely for humanitarian purposes, namely for transport of foods, medical and essential relief supplies into Nigerian and Biafran controlled areas in accordance with policy and practices of ICRC UNQTE.
 3. Department prefers that ICRC keep to this commitment and limit use these aircraft to purpose for which they originally requested and provided. FYI We see no point in their diversion from mission in which they so badly needed to further ICRC policy objectives in other areas.
- END FYI
4. Full text ICRC letter and requested details C-97G sales agreement follow.

ROGERS

Drafted by:

AF/W:GBSherry:ba 2/17/69

Clearances:

Tel. Ext.

5462

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

Rm
Roy M. Melbourne

Nigeria Task Force

AID/AFR/CWA-Mr. North (draft)
DOD/OSD/ISA-Col. Kennedy (draft)

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

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Authority VMD 954503
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

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Department of State

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA ✓
XR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA X

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 562

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PAGE 01 OSLO 00695 171659Z

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ACTION 10 15

INFO AF 12, EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAF 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03,

SCS 04, SCA 01, ARA 08, EA 10, NEA 13, RSR 01, 176 W
012439

171540Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2332
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 112

CONFIDENTIAL OSLO 695

SUBJECT: KENNEDY PROPOSAL - DRAFT NORWEGIAN RESOLUTION

REF: USUN 393; USUN 435

1. ENBOFFS FEBRUARY 17 MET WITH ARNESEN, FONOFF UN AFFAIRS CHIEF, TO DISCUSS DRAFT NORWEGIAN RESOLUTION ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AGAINST BACKGROUND KENNEDY PROPOSAL AND EXPECTED RESURGENCE NORWEGIAN PUBLIC INTEREST IN NIGERIA/BIAFRA SITUATION.

2. ARNESEN SAID AFTER NEGATIVE NIGERIAN ATTITUDE TO NORWEGIAN PROPOSAL BECAME KNOWN, FONOFF DECIDED TO LET MATTER REST UNTIL EITHER MAY ECOSOC MEETING OR SEPTEMBER ICRC MEETING. LATTER FORUM MORE LIKELY TO BE USED AS NORWEGIAN UN AMBASSADOR HAMRO MEMBER OF COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS APPOINTED TO PREPARE BACK-UP PAPERS FOR AGENDA WHICH INCLUDES ITEM ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CIVILIAN POPULATIONS OF COUNTRIES AT WAR.

3. KENNEDY PROPOSAL PRESENTED AT TIME WHEN FONOFF IN MIDST OF REFINING NORWEGIAN PROPOSAL, FONMIN LYNG PREPARING FOR FEB 20 FOREIGN POLICY REVIEW IN PARLIAMENT, AND NATIONAL TV HAS SCHEDULED FEB 20 PRESENTATION FIRST-HAND FILM REPORT FROM BIAFRA FILMED BY NORWEGIAN TV TEAM. FONMIN EXPECTED TO

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23

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By: MNARA Date: 10/5/05

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~~S/S Pending~~
RS/R FILES WASHINGTON
Attention *Mr. Mullett*
Keep this study together.

NOTE: Secy appv'd to see President Zinsou on 3/4/69. See Memo attached.

President agreed to mtg on March 7 at 12:15 p.m. for 15 minutes. Alice in WH to SBrossman, 2.25.69 February 17, 1969

AF informed: GLK/- 2/26/69

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Appointment for His Excellency Emile-Derlin Zinsou, President of the Republic of Dahomey

Recommendation:

That you agree to receive the President of the Republic of Dahomey, Emile-Derlin Zinsou, for a courtesy call during the week of March 2.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Background:

Emile-Derlin Zinsou, President of the Republic of Dahomey, expects to be in the United States for a private visit the week of March 2 and has requested an appointment with you.

② An intelligent, moderate and highly-regarded African leader, friendly to the United States, President Zinsou has permitted the ICRC to operate relief flights to "Biafra" from his capital, Cotonou, after they were suspended by the Government of Equatorial Guinea. This step has been criticized by the Federal Military Government of Nigeria which might put pressure on Dahomey to harass or curtail the flights. President Zinsou has also publicly expressed his opposition to secession and called for negotiations, without conditions, within the framework of Nigerian unity.

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BY S/S: CMS

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-
NIGERIA
Department of State
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CONFIDENTIAL 592

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00157 180932Z

18
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, CIAE 00, JPM 04,
H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12,
UPW 01, RSR 01, /150 W

016618

R 171405Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2342
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
RRUEBBEA/CINCSTRIKE
DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL LIBREVILLE 157

CITE SICR D-CDB-21909

SUBJ BIAFRAN AIRLIFT

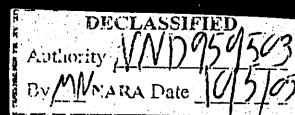
1. DC-4 TR-LNV MAY HAVE FLOWN NIGHT FEB 15-16 AND
DC-4 F-BBDD NIGHT FEB 16-17, BOTH FROM MILITARY AREA.

2. CONSTELLATION TR-LNY DEPARTED HERE APPARENTLY DURING
DAY FEB 16 AND HAD NOT RETURNED AS OF 0715 TODAY FEB 17.
GP 3 BANE

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-
Department of State NIGERIA
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 598

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00158 180938Z

22
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CU 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, SCA 01,
SCS 04, ORM 03, SR 01, AID 28, RSR 01, /154 W

016624

R 171410Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2343
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 158

SUBJ BIAFRAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF

1. CATCHPOOL INFORMS US GUSSMAN OF SCHWEITZER FELLOWSHIP
PLANNING DISCUSS BIAFRAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF WITH
DEPT THIS WEEK. CATCHPOOL UNCERTAIN WHAT SPECIFIC
PURPOSES GUSSMAN HAS IN MIND, THOUGH LATTER DID ASK
CATCHPOOL FOR LATEST RUNDOWN ON RELIEF ACTIVITIES HERE
WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT.

2. POSSIBLY GUSSMAN WILL AGAIN RAISE QUESTION US
MATERIAL AID TO SCHWEITZER FELLOWSHIP EFFORT HERE
(PARA 3B DEPT 282945, DEC 6 '68; PARA 3, STATE 287472,
DEC 14, '68). FELLOWSHIP NOT YET ENGAGED HERE EXCEPT IN TERMS
TENTATIVE CATCHPOOL PLANS PROVIDE TWO SEMI-PERMANENT
BUILDINGS ON FRENCH MILITARY SITE. FELLOWSHIP AUTHORI-
ZATION FOR THIS PROJECT (LIBREVILLE 071) REITERATED
BY GUSSMAN TO CATCHPOOL LAST WEEK. CATCHPOOL
PRESUMABLY WILL EVENTUALLY GO AHEAD WITH THIS PROJECT,
THOUGH HE HAS NOT YET RECEIVED GOG APPROVAL. HE ATTRACTED
BY INVITATION JOIN GERMAN CARITAS-PROTESTANT CHURCH CENTER
(PARA 5, LIBREVILLE 134) AND HE CONCERNED MILITARY HOSPITAL
MAY HAVE SHORT LIFE IF ASECNA (FRENCH AIRPORT MANAGEMENT
AND CONTROL ORGANIZATION HERE) RECLAIMS SITE AT END.

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PAGE 02 LIBREV 00158 180938Z

NIGERIAN CONFLICT FOR AIRPORT EXPANSION. WE WONDER WHETHER CONTRIBUTION BUILDINGS TO FRENCH MILITARY HOSPITAL IS TYPE PROJECT CONSIDERED ELIGIBLE FOR MATERIAL ASSISTANCE DISCUSSED IN DEPT WITH FELLOWSHIP. AT MOMENT CATCHPOOL SEEMS BE TENDING TOWARD IDEA CONTRIBUTION BUILDINGS TO MILITARY HOSPITAL ON BEHALF FELLOWSHIP AND THEN GOING PERSONALLY WORK WITH GERMAN CARITAS-PROTESTANT CENTER, BUT IF HE SHOULD RETURN TO ORIGINAL PLAN ATTACH SELF TO MILITARY HOSPITAL IT CONCEIVABLE HE WILL HOPE SECURE EQUIPMENT AND OTHER SUPPLIES FROM USG.

3. OTHER FELLOWSHIP INTEREST THERE OF COURSE SCHWEITZER HOSPITAL WHERE, ACCORDING HOSPITAL DIRECTOR DR. MUNZ, THEY PLAN TAKE 80 BIAFRAN CHILDREN IN ADDITION 20 PRESENTLY THERE. WE ASSUME AT LEAST PART FINANCING WILL COME FROM \$10,000 PROVIDED BY FELLOWSHIP SOME TIME AGO (PARA 1, LBVL 004) AND THIS TOO MAY GIVE RISE GUSSMAN REQUEST FOR MATERIAL ASSISTANCE. NO INDICATION WHEN THIS PROJECT WILL COMMENCE. CATCHPOOL LIKELY ADVISE AGAINST IT ON GROUND MONIES COULD BE MORE EFFECTIVELY SPENT LIBREVILLE AREA AND BECAUSE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DISARRAY AND INTRAMURAL CONFLICTS HE STATES PRESENTLY EXIST AT SCHWEITZER HOSPITAL. GP 3 BANE

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Classification

Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info INFO : Amembassy LONDON
US Mission GENEVA

STATE
LIMDIS

1. Ambassador Iyalla met with Assistant Secretary Palmer February 14 and left an Aide Memoire outlining FMG position on relief ~~whose~~ text of which

being transmitted separately. He also asked that USG do all it can to make daylight Obilagu air and land relief corridor possible. He stated FMG favored proposal as outlined by Congressman Lowenstein in order to remove problem from field of military operations designed to intercept gunrunning. Palmer reminded X Iyalla that Lowenstein engaged in purely private initiative which, however, we think has ~~some~~ merit. USG believed it highly important to open a relief route and would keep Iyalla's request in mind when talking to Mr. Lowenstein.

2. Iyalla referred to press reports of US review of its relief efforts this obviously involves FMG interests, and, since ~~in order to avoid situation such as that with C-97s~~ ^{in order to avoid situation such as that with C-97s} hoped there could be prior consultations before US made public announcements. Palmer replied that US has not yet completed review but would bear request in mind.

3. Senator Goodell said in Lagos that he expected to see Secretary Rogers on his return, according Iyalla. Latter asked whether

Drafted by:

AF/W:RM Melbourne:emb 2/14

Tel. Ext.
2619Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

AF - Joseph Palmer 2nd

Clearances:

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8-65 DS-322

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By MNA Date 10/3/05

Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

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Senator could be cautioned against complicating relief situation in any public statements he might make. Palmer clearly recalled for Ambassador that Senator would be speaking for himself, as was his right. He not speaking for Executive Branch.

4. Throughout brief meeting Iyalla appeared in subdued mood.

GP-3

END

ROGERS

FORM DS-322A
8-63
CONTINUATION SHEET

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POL 29-9 BIAFRA-
NIGERIA
Department of State
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 566

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00152 151517Z

49
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, CIAE 00, JPM 04,
H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12,

ABCE 00, RSR 01, 149 W

005722

R 151430Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2340
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
CINCSTRIKE
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 152

CITE SICR D-CDB-21909

SUBJ BIAFRAN AIRLIFT

1. AT LEAST ONE AIRCRAFT FLEW NIGHT FEB 11-12, APPARENTLY
DC-4 F-BRHQ WHICH WAS SUPPOSED BRING BACK 30 CHILDREN BUT DID
NOT.

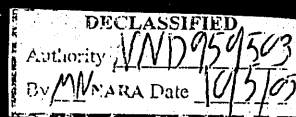
2. DC-3 439B WOULD SEEM TO HAVE FLOWN FROM MILITARY AREA
NIGHT FEB 12-13.

3. ABSENT SINCE FEB 4, WHAT WE BELIEVE IS DC-4 TR-LNV WITH
REG REMOVED (SOLID BLUE TAIL AND TWO TONED BLUE
FUSELAGE STRIP) RETURNED LIBREVILLE FEB 13, PARKED MILITARY
AREA, AND MAY HAVE FLOWN SAME NIGHT.

4. FRENCH AIR FORCE DC-6 82-PY IN MILITARY AREA AS OF 0700
FEB 14 AND DEPARTED SOMETIME PRIOR 1800. GPI 3 BANE

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37



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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PAGE 01 SANTA 00040 182207Z

84
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13,CCO 00,CIAE 00,DODE 00,NSAE 00,NSCE 00,SSO 00,USIE 00,
USUE 00,SR 01,ORM 03,JPM 04,NSC 10,SP 02,SS 20,RSC 01,AID 28,
L 03,H 02,UPW 01,E 15,SCS 04,SCA 01,P 04,USIA 12,INR 07,EUR 15,
RSR 01,/165 W

0 P 151330Z FEB 69
FM USINT SANTA ISABEL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 40
INFO AMEMBASSY LOME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU

020420

C O N F I D E N T I A L: SANTA ISABEL 40

SAW FORMIN YESTERDAY AND REACHED AGREEMENT THAT ICRC CAN NOW
USE UP TO 3 PLANES NIGHTLY AND FLY AS MANY FLIGHTS AS POSSIBLE
DURING THIRTY DAY PERIOD. LINDT AGREED BEGIN PAYMENTS AIRPORT
LANDING AND PARKING FEES DIRECTLY TO GOEG AS OF FEB 12. LINDT
PREPARED PAY SAME FEES TO SPAIN IF NECESSARY.

FONMIN CONFIDENT DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED DURING
NEXT MONTH. STRONG WORDING OF FEB 12 COMMUNIQUE REPORTEDLY AT
INSISTENCE OF INTMIN MACIE WHO CONTROLS LOCAL MEDIA. FINAL TEXT
REFLECTED COMPROMISE BETWEEN THESE TWO POSITIONS.

FONMIN REPORTELY PLEASED WITH ICRC COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCING
RESUMPTION OF FLIGHTS. TEXT WAS HIGHLY FLATTERING
OF GOEG. WILLIAMS

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**
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Time 139
2-15-69

PAGE 01 LOME 00139 151129Z

20
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01,

AID 28, RSR 01, 149 W

005008

P R 150920Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2182
INFO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOME 139

YAOUNDE FOR SANTA ISABEL

REF: SANTA ISABEL 38 PARA 2

*PH 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
TRK POLIS-1 E@GAIN*

DO NOT REPEAT NOT BELIEVE SUGGESTED CABLE TO MACIAS IS GOOD
 IDEA. ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT LIFT HIS SPIRITS, IT WOULD ALSO
 REINFORCE ANY IDEA HE MAY HAVE THAT WE ARE IN HIS DEBT. WE
 HAVE PUSHED GEG HARD BOTH IN WASHINGTON AND SANTA ISABEL AND
 IN MY VIEW WE SHOULD NOW LET GEG AND ICRC WORK OUT PROBLEMS
 TOGETHER. IF, TOWARD END OF THIRTY DAY PERIOD, THEY HAVE
 MADE NO PROGRESS WE CAN INTERVENE ONCE AGAIN.

SHERER

2

CONFIDENTIAL
3

0415

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority VND 9503
 By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 399

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00452 151014Z

20
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

USIA 12, RSR 01, E 15, EA 10, NIC 01, /175 W

004667

P 150955Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 329

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 452

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC C97G'S

1. ICRC EXPECTS ARRIVAL IN SWITZERLAND IN COMING WEEK TWO C97G'S ACQUIRED FROM USG. WILL, OF COURSE, USE THEM FOR PURPOSE FOR WHICH THEY IN EFFECT DONATED - I.E., IN BIAFRA AIRLIFT.

2. ICRC, HOWEVER, WOULD LIKE FIRST TO USE ONE OR PERHAPS BOTH PLANES TO DELIVER A LOAD OR TWO OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO ICRC TEAMS OPERATING IN YEMEN (SANA) AND/OR ADEN. ICRC OBSERVES THAT COTONOU PARKING PROBLEM MAKES SLIGHT DELAY IN GETTING C97G THERE DESIRABLE. PUTTING PLANES TO GOOD USE CARRYING DESPERATELY NEEDED RELIEF SUPPLIES TO YEMEN WOULD HELP ICRC AND ALSO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR AN ADDITIONAL CHECKING-OUT OF THE PLANES BEFORE COMMENCING BIAFRAN RUN.

3. WHILE BELIEVING NOTHING IN CONDITIONS SALES AGREEMENT LEGALLY PRECLUDES ICRC'S USE OF PLANES FOR A TRIP OR TWO TO YEMEN, ICRC IS ANXIOUS TO AVOID ANY ACTION WHICH MIGHT CONCEIVABLY BE EMBARRASSING TO USG. ICRC HAS, THEREFORE, REQUESTED USG VIEWS. ICRC WILL NOT USE C97G FOR DELIVERING SUPPLIES TO YEMEN UNLESS ASSURED THERE NO USG OBJECTION.

4. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP. (MISSION WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE FULL INFORMATION PRECISE TERMS C97G SALES AGREEMENT.)

5. COMMENT: IT MAY BE THAT SOME IN CONGRESS AND ELSEWHERE WOULD TAKE DIM VIEW ICRC FLIGHTS INTO COMMUNIST-ORIENTED AREA.

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7

GENEVA-452
21569

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15 FEB 1969

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Authority VND 954503
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05



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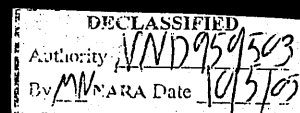
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00452 151014Z

USING PLANES DESTINED FOR RELIEF TO BIAFRA. I BELIEVE WHILE
ICRC WOULD LIKE TO GET MORE SUPPLIES TO YEMEN OR ADEN TO PEOPLE
NEEDING ASSISTANCE. COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO SHOW IN THIS WAY
WILLINGNESS AND CAPACITY GIVE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE COMMUNIST-
ORIENTED AREAS, POSSIBLY HAVING IN MIND THIS MIGHT IMPROVE RED
CROSS RELATIONS WITH NORTH VIET NAM.
TUBBY

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0417



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FOR OCIT USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA
Amembassy COTONOU
Amembassy LONDON
USMission GENEVA

~~M~~ LIMDIS

SUBJECT: Nigerian Attitude Toward ICRC Airlift.

During call February 14 on AsstSec Palmer, Nigerian Ambassador Iyalla left following Aide Memoire:

QUOTE 1. (A) The arrangements for the I.C.R.C. to fly relief supplies from Cotonou, in the Republic of Dahomey, to an airstrip in the rebel-held area of the East Central State of Nigeria, were concluded without prior reference to the Federal Government of Nigeria.

(B) There were no provisions for inspection by Nigerian representatives of the cargo being so air-lifted. (As a result of reaction in Nigeria, the Government of Dahomey is now willing to invite, as an after-thought, Nigerian representatives to be available for such inspection.)

(C) The arrangements for night flights by I.C.R.C. planes, are against the wishes, and in open defiance, of the Federal Government's long standing declaration that permission would be granted only for daylight flights.

(D) The I.C.R.C. is operating these flights through Nigerian air-space and over Nigerian territory without prior clearance of the routes to be taken by the aircraft and without any permission, or the courtesy of prior

Drafted by:

AF/W:GBSheary:kjl 2/14/69

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by: Nigeria Task Force:RM Melbourne

Clearances:

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Classification

FORM DS-322
8-65

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VMD 959503
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

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[notification, for these repeated and constant violations of Nigerian territory and
air-space.]

These flights, conducted under the conditions outlined above, are unauthorized. Nevertheless, the Federal authorities have continued to let the flights through, in view of the Federal Government's over-riding desire for relief supplies to reach the needy population still in rebel-held territory.

2. The Federal Government's offer of daylight flights is still valid. It is universally acknowledged that such daylight flights would ensure a much greater volume of relief supplies and would remove the dangers to which relief planes are exposed in hazardous night flights operating at the same time as aircraft illegally conveying weapons and munitions of war to the rebels.

3. (A) The Federal Government's own offers of land corridors are still valid and open.

(B) Proposals along these lines by the Emperor of Ethiopia, as Chairman of the Consultative Committee of the Organisation of African Unity, have been promptly accepted by the Federal Government. It is understood that no response has been received from the rebels and that further discussion of the details of implementing the proposal has been prevented by the refusal of the rebels to cooperate with the Committee.

(C) A recent proposal by an interested American legislator, along the lines of the general proposals put forward by His Imperial Majesty, Haile Selassie I, in January 1969, contains the following elements:

0419

Page 3 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

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Classification

"All relief flights to take place by daylight. Such flights whether from Santa Isabel or Sao Tome are to land in Uturu (Obilagu). At Uturu they will be off-loaded by Nigerian Army and handed over to relief agencies for transportation to the secessionist area."

The Federal Government has accepted the proposal in its entirety. No satisfactory reply has been forthcoming from the rebel leadership.

4. In view of the friendly relations existing between the United States of America and the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and the close consultations between both Governments in these matters, arising from the interest of the Government of the United States in the humanitarian aspects of the Nigerian conflict, it is hoped that the American Government will take note of the substantial proposals and measures which the Nigerian Government has repeatedly put forward or promptly accepted, sometimes in spite of provocative infractions of its sovereignty and security, or readily accepted at great inconvenience to some aspects of its military efforts to crush the rebellion.

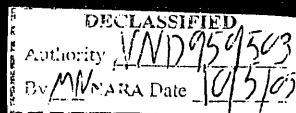
5. The Government of the United States will also note that all reasonable proposals designed to increase significantly the quantity of relief material reaching the civilian population in the rebel held districts of the East-Central State of Nigeria have continued to be blocked by the intransigence of the rebel leadership. 12th February, 1969. END QUOTE.

END

ROGERS

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 639

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01370 141329Z

54
ACTION: AFI 18.

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, SAH 02, AID 28, SRI 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, CIAE 00,

DODE: 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, PI 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS: 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 151 W

128800

R 141200Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4980
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL IBADAN UNN
AMCONSUL KADUNA UNN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 1370

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF PILOTS OF C-97 AIRCRAFT

REF: STATE 20973

T. ON RECEIPT REFTEL AMBASSADOR SAME DAY EXPLAINED STATUS
C-97 FLIGHT CREWS (PARA 3: REFTEL) TO MINEXTAFF ARIKPO.
SIMILAR EXPLANATION GIVEN BY CARTER, USIS DIRECTOR, TO
SAM EPELLE, MININFO. EMBASSY APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT
ALERTING US THIS MATTER AND BELIEVE ADVANCE EXPLANATIONS
STATUS OF CREWS WILL BE HELPFUL.

MATHEWS

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32

0421

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

66



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 01378 141732Z

49
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, NSA 02, SR 01, ORM 03, SCSE 00, SCA 01, SAH 02,

AID 28, RSRI 01, 137 W

130352

R 141500Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4985
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA UNN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA UNN
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY UNN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE UNN
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NY
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS LAGOS 1378

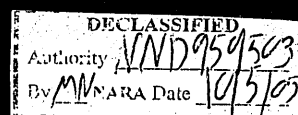
USIA FOR IBS

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN PRESS ROUNDUP, FEBRUARY 13-14

1. DAHOMEY AND RED CROSS FLIGHTS. LAGOS PAPERS FEBRUARY 13
REPORTED GOWON HAD SENT WORKS COMMISSIONER OKUNNU TO COTONOU
TO REPLY TO NOTE FROM DAHOMEAN PRESIDENT ZINSOU. EARLIER
INFO COMMISSIONER ENAHORO CONFIRMED DAHOMEY HAD INVITED EMG
SEND TEAM TO COTONOU TO INSPECT RELIEF SUPPLIES TO BE
AIRLIFTED TO REBEL AREAS. SKETCH REACTED WITH CHARGE DAHOMEY
WELCOMED ICRC FOR PURELY FINANCIAL REASONS. NEXT DAY,
TIMES HEADLINED FMG REJECTION SENDING ANY TEAM TO DAHOMEY,
QUOTING OKUNNU ON RETURN AS SAYING THIS QTE COMPLETELY RULED
OUT UNQTE. ACCORDING NEW NIGERIAN, PERMSEC FMG MINEXTAFF
BABA GANA WAS QUOTED IN KADUNA AS SAYING DAHOMEYS
ACTION WAS QTE UNFORTUNATE UNQTE, AND CLAIMED DAHOMEY HAD

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 01378 141732Z

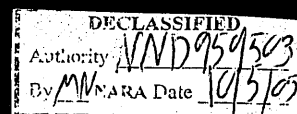
NEVER CONSULTED FMG BEFORE ALLOWING ICRC USE OF COTONOU AIRPORT. HE ADDED ANY GOVT WISHING SEND RELIEF TO REBEL-HELD AREAS FREE TO DO SO, BUT UNDER SPECIFIC AGREEMENT WITH FMG. BASED ON AN OLD AP STORY FILED IN MIAMI, AND PRINTED IN THE WASHPOST, BOTH TIMES AND POST GAVE PLAY TO COLOR STORY ON AMERICAN PILOTS FOR JCA RELIEF FLIGHTS, BOTH PAPERS CALLING THEM QTE MERCENARIES UNQTE.

2. CODEL DIGGS. AS USUAL, MOST ACERBIC ANTI-AMERICAN ITEM CAME FROM FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL IN NEW NIGERIAN WHICH BLUNTLY SAID CODEL QTE NOT WELCOME UNQTE. FOLLOWING USUAL TIRADE AGAINST QTE HUMANITARIANS UNQTE, NEW NIGERIAN ENDED WITH STATEMENT NIGERIANS DESIRE PEACE MORE THAN ANY CONGRESSMAN. IN CONTRAST, FMG-CONTROLLED POST HIGHLIGHTED ENAHORO MEETING WITH CODEL FAVORABLY ON THIRTEENTH, AND GAVE EQUALLY FAVORABLE COVERAGE OF CODEL MEETING WITH GOWON ON FOURTEENTH. THEME IN BOTH ISSUES WAS ONE OF PATIENTLY BUT POLITELY EXPLAINING TO AMERICAN VISITORS TRUE PICTURE OF WAR. THIS BASED ON ORIGINAL PLAY GIVEN DIGGS REMARK THERE GREAT DEAL QTE MISINFORMATION REGARDING NIGERIAN CRISIS IN US UNQTE (LAGOS PRESS ROUNDUP FEB 12).

3. THE FRENCH. LAGOS DAILIES ALSO GAVE FRONT-PAGE TREATMENT TO REPORTS FROM PARIS THAT FRENCH DELEGATION HEADED BY CENTRIST DEPUTY ACHILLE-FOULD HAD FOUND NO SIGNS OF GENOCIDE. IN ADDITION, A FRENCH FIVE-MAN QTE MIXED DELEGATION OF BUSINESSMEN AND LAWYERS UNQTE HAS ISSUED STATEMENTS SUPPORTING THE FMG IN BENIN CITY, ACCORDING TO BOTH THE BENIN OBSERVER AND THE POST. MATHEWS

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0423





POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

134
7-14-68

CONFIDENTIAL 508

PAGE 01 LOME 00134 151236Z

22

ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAF 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03,

SCS 04, SCA 01, SAH 02, ACDA 16, E 15, RSR 01, /182 W

005308

R 140942Z FEB 69 ZEL
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2178
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USUN NEW YORK 113

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOME 134

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

YAOUNDE PASS SANTA ISABEL

SUBJ: ICRC AIR LIFT

REF: LOME 96

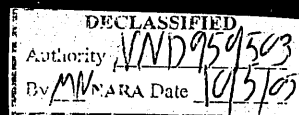
1. SOURCES IN DIP CORPS AND MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAVE PROVIDED FRAGMENTARY INFORMATION SUGGESTING TOGOLESE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN OR IS ABOUT TO TAKE DECISION AGAINST USE LOME AIRPORT FOR BIAFRAN AIRLIFT. DECISION BELIEVED RELATED UNPAID BALANCE OF SUM OWED TOGO BY FMG IN CONNECTION DC-7 GROUNDED LOME LAST YEAR WITH CARGO NIGERIAN CURRENCY WHICH WAS TURNED OVER TO FMG. FIGURE NOW CIRCULATING OF AMOUNT TO BE PAID TOGO IS 300 MILLION CFA.

2. FONMINISTRY OFFICIAL CONFIRMED YESTERDAY THAT TOGOLESE MISSION HAD JUST RETURNED FROM LAGOS AFTER SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION OF NEGOTIATION TO ARRANGE PAYMENT BALANCE DUE. WHEN ASKED IF THIS WOULD BE FINANCIALLY MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO TOGO THAN POSSIBLE

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31

0424





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PAGE 02 LOME 00134 151236Z

IMPROVEMENT OF LOME AIRPORT FACILITIES BY ICRC OFFICIAL SMILED
AND SAID THAT APPEARED OBVIOUS. SHERER

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21

0425

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Authority <i>VND959503</i>
By <i>MM</i> NARA Date <i>10/5/05</i>



POL 27-9 BIAFRA -
Department of State NIGERIA
TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 KADUNA 00113 141419Z

45
ACTION AF 18

INFO SAH 02, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04,
H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12,
ACDA 16, IO 13, EUR 15, RSR 01, /167 W

R 141130Z FEB 69
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1040
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMCONSUL IBADAN

129113

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KADUNA 0113

1. IN SHORT MIDDLE PAGE NEWS ITEM TITLED "U.S. CHURCHES
HIRE MERCENARIES FOR OJUKWU", FEB. 14 NEW NIGERIAN
STATES THAT JOINT CHURCH AID HAS HIRED "NINETEEN
MERCENARY AIRMEN" TO FLU C97S THROUGH NIGERIAN
BLOCKADE OF REBELS. ARTICLE, WHICH CITES ASSOCIATED
PRESS REPORT FROM MIAMI AS SOURCE, QUOTES TWO OF
THE AIRMEN, TED WALLERY OF LOS ANGELES AND RON
HESS OF VAN NUY, "AS SAYING THEY TOOK THE JOB FOR
MONEY, ADVENTURE AND IDEALISM." ARTICLE ALSO NOTES
PLANES OBTAINED " U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE".

2. COMMENT: FORTUNATELY STORY GIVEN LOW KEY
TREATMENT BY NEW NIGERIAN TODAY, BUT IT POSSIBLE
TO ISSUE WILL BE FURTHER BLOWN UP IN SUCCEEDING
ISSUES.
STOKES

Dec 132
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By MVA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-
Department of State NIGERIA
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 798

PAGE 01 COTONO: 00174 141451Z

47
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, E 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 02, AID 28,
SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, 166 W

R 141155Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1870
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON

129348

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 174

SUBJECT: ICRC COTONOU AIRLIFT

1. ICRC NOW OPERATING WITH THREE DC-6 AND ONE TRANSALL FROM COTONOU. NIGHT FEBRUARY 13-14 MOST SUCCESSFUL NIGHT YET. EIGHT FLIGHTS COMPLETED, DELIVERING ABOUT EIGHTY TONS OF STOCK FISH, SEMOUL AND MISCELLANEOUS CARGO.

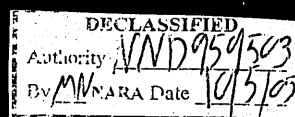
2. IN CONTRAST TO MISSIONS EARLY IN WEEK, FLIGHTS THURSDAY NIGHT RAN INTO NO HARASSMENT FROM NIGERIAN BOMBER. PILOTS RETURNING, HOWEVER, REPORTED THEY DELAYED AT ONE POINT BY UNIDENTIFIED DC-4, WHICH NEEDED SEVERAL PASSES AT ULI AIRPORT BEFORE ABLE TO LAND. PILOTS ALSO REPORTED THEY ENCOUNTERED NO JCA AIRCRAFT AT ULI.

3. ICRC REP DYRSSEN (PROTECT) REPORTS BOMBING ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY MUCH MORE ACCURATE THAN IN PAST. AIRSTRIPE HIT ON AT LEAST TWO OCCASIONS AND TWO JCA CRAFT DAMAGED BY BOMB FRAGMENTS. DYRSSEN SPECULATED BOMBING SUCCESS MAY BE DUE PURE CHANCE, BUT THERE ALSO POSSIBILITY FMG HAS HIRED MORE RELIABLE PILOT AND PERHAPS EQUIPPED BOMBER WITH MORE SOPHISTICATED NIGHT FLYING AIDS. KNOX

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27

0427





POL 32-1 DAHOMEY-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 522

Cotonou 172
2-14-69

PAGE 01 COTONO 00172 14157Z

18
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, CIAE 00, OODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 02, AID 28, EUR 15, ~~RSR 04~~,

/142 W

128268

R 141020Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHOC 1869
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 172

SUBJECT: DAHO-NIGERIAN RELATIONS

1. DAHOMEAN-NIGERIAN BORDER WAS CLOSED BY NIGERIA ALL DAY FEB 12; TWELVE VEHICLES GRANTED SPECIAL PERMISSION TO PASS. BORDER OPEN FOR BUSINESS AS USUAL FEB 13. NIGERIAN AND DAHOMEAN CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES AT FRONTIER CONVINCED BORDER CLOSED ON 12TH BECAUSE DAHOMEY PERMITTING ICRC TO FLY FROM COTONOU. ANOTHER EXPLANATION COULD BE NIGERIANS PUT INTO EFFECT ONE OF PERIODIC CLAMP-DOWNS ON SMUGGLERS.

2. COMMENT: INCLINED BELIEVE CLOSING OF BORDER WAS HARASSMENT BY FMG OF ZINSOU GOVERNMENT, COMING AS IT DID WHEN NIGERIAN VERBAL HOSTILITY TOWARD GRD-ICRC IN FULL FORCE. CLOSING OF BORDER, EVEN FOR THE ONE DAY, HAS SHAKEN PORTO NOVIANS. FUEL HAS BEEN ADDED TO RUMORS FMG ABOUT CLOSE BORDER PERMANENTLY AND THAT FMG CONSIDERING EXPELLING DAHOMEANS FROM NIGERIA. EITHER OF THESE MEASURES WOULD BE REGARDED AS CALAMITY IN DAHOMEY AND COULD BE EXPECTED GENERATE MASS RESENTMENT TOWARDS ZINSOU.

EXEMPT. KNOX

(2)

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By MN/ARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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GENEVA-443
2-14-69

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00443 141146Z

21
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SAH 02, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, AID 28,
SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, / 139 W

P 141112Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 323
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
----- 128222

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 443

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC BIAFRA AIRLIFTS

REF: A) GENEVA 438; B) GENEVA 420; C) GENEVA 395

1. SANTA ISABEL (REF A). ICRC COMPLETED TWO FLIGHTS AGAIN ON
NIGHT FEBRUARY 13, 20 TONS.

2. COTONOU. FLIGHTS NIGHTS FEBRUARY 12 AND 13 AS FOLLOWS (UPDATING
REF B):

FEBRUARY	TOTAL	TRANSALL	DC-6	DC-6	DC-6	TONS
12	7	2	2	2	1	73.9
13	8	2	2	2	2	81.0

THIRD DC-6 IS ONE MOVED FROM SANTA ISABEL (REF C, PARA 2)

3. SWEDISH DC-7 (REF C, PARAS 3-5) LEAVING STOCKHOLM THIS MORNING
FOR COTONOU. EXPECTED ON FEBRUARY 18 TO FERRY BIAFRAN WOUNDED.

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Authority: VND 959503
By: MWA Date: 10/5/05



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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00443 141146Z

FROM COTONOU (WHERE THEY WILL HAVE BEEN BROUGHT FROM ULI BY
RETURNING ICRC FLIGHTS) TO SEVERAL EUROPEAN CITIES FOR TREATMENT.
TUBBY

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(2)

0430

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00444 141143Z

21
ACTION AID 28

INFO IO 13, AF 12, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, RSC 01, 064 W
----- 128215

R 141113Z FEB 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 324
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

GENEVA-444
2-14-69

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 444

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: MEASLES/SMALLPOX CAMPAIGN FOR "BIAFRA"

REF: STATE 22215

1. MISSION PASSED SUBSTANCE REFTEL TO AMMANN AND SCHMIDT OF ICRC AND THROUGH THEM TO DR. GRASSET IN PARIS.
2. DR. GRASSET LEAVING FOR US THIS WEEKEND TO ATTEND SCIENTIFIC MEETING IN WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 19 AND 20. SHE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE OPPORTUNITY DISCUSS MEASLES/SMALLPOX PROGRAM WITH AID, PROBABLY ON FEBRUARY 21.

3. MISSION HAS SUGGESTED SHE TELEPHONE AID-W. HAVEN NORTH (NUMBER PROVIDED) SOON AFTER ARRIVAL WASHINGTON TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENT WITH APPROPRIATE AID PERSONNEL. TUBBY

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By: MVA/ARA Date: 10/5/05



59

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 468

PAGE 01 DAR ES 00470 141121Z

17
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04,

SCA 01, AID 28, AGR 20, RSR 01, /169 W

128082

R 140830Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5698
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 470

SUBJECT: RESETTLEMENT PROJECT FOR BIAFRAN CHILDREN IN ZAMBIA

REF: STATE 22509, LUSAKA 223

1. LYNN MARSHALL (PROTECT), AMERICAN CITIZEN WHO IS HEAD OF CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES' DAR OFFICE, TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER FEB 13 THAT ROBERT FINK, TERRE DES HOMMES REP (REFTELS), HAD BEEN IN TANZANIA FROM JAN 18 TO FEB 1 ATTEMPTING TO SET UP PROGRAM UNDER WHICH BIAFRAN CHILDREN WOULD BE BROUGHT TO TANZANIA.

2. MARSHALL SAID FINK HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH VARIOUS "WELFARE TYPES" DURING TWO WEEKS WHEN HE WAS HERE AND HAD ATTEMPTED TO SEE SECOND VICE PRESIDENT KAWAWA. FINK WAS NOT RPT NOT RECEIVED BY KAWAWA, BUT AD HOC COMMITTEE OF PERSONS PROMINENT IN WELFARE WORK HAD BEEN FORMED UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE REGISTRAR PATRICK KUNAMBI TO CONSIDER FINK'S PROJECT AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.

3. MARSHALL DID NOT RPT NOT KNOW NATURE OF KUNAMBI COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS, BUT SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE IS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING PROJECT. TANZANIAN

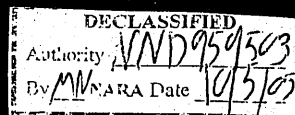
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PAGE 02 DAR ES 00470 141121Z

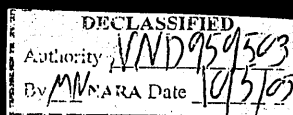
FOREIGN OFFICE HAS BEEN ASKED TO CHECK WITH GABONESE AND BIAFRAN AUTHORITIES TO FIND OUT WHETHER THEY FAVOR FINK'S PROPOSALS.

4. MARSHALL WAS QUITE ANXIOUS THAT EMBASSY BE AWARE THAT HIS OFFICE HAD MADE NO RPT NO COMMITMENT TO FINK. (MARSHALL SAID FINK HAD IMPRESSED HIM AS A PERSON WHO WOULD INFLATE STATEMENTS MADE BY HIM BY ONE PARTY IN ORDER TO SERVE HIS PURPOSES IN DEALING WITH OTHER PARTIES.) MARSHALL SAID HE HAD GIVEN FINK LETTER WHICH SAYS THAT IF CHILDREN COME TO TANZANIA AND IF PROJECT GETS OFFICIAL APPROVAL BY ALL GOVERNMENT AND AUTHORITIES CONCERNED, THEN DAR OFFICE OF CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES WOULD AGREE TO APPROACH USAID TO ASK FOR TEMPORARY FOOD SUPPLIES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS FAO'S WORLD FOOD PROGRAM COULD MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR LONG-TERM SUPPORT OF BIAFRAN CHILDREN IN TANZANIA.

5. MARSHALL SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED HIGH COSTS AND OTHER PROBLEMS OF BRINGING CHILDREN HERE WITH FINK. FINK HAD SAID THAT SUPPORTING CHILDREN IN GABON WAS VERY EXPENSIVE, BUT MARSHALL SAID HE HAD INDICATED TO FINK THAT HE THOUGHT BRINGING CHILDREN TO TANZANIA WOULD IN LONG RUN BE EVEN MORE COSTLY, IN ADDITION TO CREATING PROBLEMS OF STRANGE ENVIRONMENT, UNFAMILIAR LANGUAGE, SEPARATION FROM FAMILIES, ETC. GP-3.
BURNS

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TELEGRAM

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Pol 27-9 Biafra-Nigeria

SECRET 488

PAGE 01 LONDON 01240 141140Z

18
ACTION SS 70

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, CCO 00, /070 W
128192

P 141100Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8819
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION GENEVA

SECRET LONDON 1240

LIMDIS

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: OBILAGO PROPOSAL

REF: LAGOS 1344 - *Pol 27-9 Biafra-Nigeria*

1. CODEL DIGGS' MEETING WITH FONOFF'S FOLEY AND TEBBIT FEB 10 WAS DEVOTED TO GENERAL DISCUSSION OF POLITICAL AND RELIEF PROBLEMS. ONLY RELIEF CORRIDOR TO BE DISCUSSED IN ANY DETAIL WAS RIVER ROUTE TO OGUTA WHICH KOGBARA HAD EARLIER TOLD CODEL WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO BIAFRANS. TEBBIT TRACED ROUTE ON MAP FOR CONGRESSMEN AND EXPLAINED FMG'S OBJECTION TO IT. OBILAGO MAY HAVE BEEN MENTIONED IN PASSING ALONG WITH OTHER POSSIBLE ROUTES, BUT THERE WAS NO MENTION THAT IT WAS UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION OR OF LOWENSTEIN'S ROLE. THIS IS ALSO TEBBIT'S RECOLLECTION.

2. WE WERE NOT PRESENT AT CODEL'S MEETING WITH NIGERIAN MICOMER OGUNDIPE AND CANNOT SAY WHETHER SUBJECT CAME UP THEM. BRUCE

SECRET

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0434

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S/IL
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S/R
S/FW
S/PM
M/WP
J/PM

Geographic

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ARA9
EA11
EUR10
NEA8

Functional

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INR6
IO4
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P2
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SCI

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DOD
USIA4
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AID/EXSEC3
AA/AFR2
AA/VN2
AA/EA3
AA/NEA2

PC
VP
AEC3
AGR3
COM2
EXIM
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0435

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By MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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RM/R
AF - Mr. Palmer
file

February 14, 1969.

Dear Phil:

I appreciate very much your thoughtful letter to me on the C-97's that were transferred to Joint Church Aid. I share your concerns on the possible further involvement in the airlift operation.

As you may know, Bishop Swanstrom has since sent a telegram to Rudd Poats of A.I.D. requesting the transfer of two additional C-97's to be used to provide additional spare parts. Rudd has replied expressing reservations, as have you, as to whether this approach will, in fact, deal with the problem, and suggesting that those knowledgeable on the technical problems get together and attempt to find a satisfactory solution.

A.I.D. has had some discussions with JCA and Flight Test Research representatives to get a clearer picture of the problem. Rudd in his letter, and the A.I.D. staff have emphasized your point that arrangements must be made with commercial suppliers to meet the continuing requirement for spares. I understand that Flight Test Research is now, in fact, doing this and is purchasing whatever it can from this source.

It appears, however, that there are a number of items peculiar to the C-97 which are not available commercially or available only in very small quantities. Also, the unusual nature of this airlift operation would appear to make necessary a larger inventory of spares than would normally be required in the 90-day kit. As a consequence, I would very much hope it would be possible for the Air Force to make available to JCA and the International Red Cross a larger inventory

Mr. Philip Hilbert,
Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force,
Room 4D934, Pentagon,
Washington, D.C. 20330

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AFR/CWA: WH NORTH

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0436

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

- 2 -

of those items peculiar to the C-97 which are not available from commercial suppliers. I believe some step of this kind is essential in order to ensure that the airlift operation continues and would, I feel confident, be acceptable to JCA and the International Red Cross. It would clearly be within the intent of pending Congressional Resolutions on Nigeria relief.

I am sorry to keep troubling you on this matter. We are, of course, most grateful for the assistance the Air Force has provided to this airlift operation.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Palmer 2nd

AFR/CWA:WHNorth:lg
ehd 2/14/69

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

January 31, 1969

Dear Joe

I am deeply concerned about developments in connection with the provision of C-97 aircraft to Joint Church Aid USA. From the beginning we made it clear that we could not provide support for these aircraft beyond provision of a "supply and maintenance spares, specialized ground equipment and tools kit" which we stated would contain items of spare parts, including spare engines, normally associated with the operation of the aircraft for a 90-day period away from their home base.

To expand the spares support beyond such a kit becomes an almost limitless action. A complete stock of spare parts to insure that the aircraft could be immediately repaired would probably be 8,000 or more items, any of which could be required even though the probability is low. Most of those items are available commercially and ability to repair with substitute commercial items is possible, in our opinion, in every instance although, admittedly, this can cause delays.

It is impossible for us to make support available from the military supply system which is a complex operation involving many depots and base level stocks with items issued only under an established priority system keyed to military needs. Since some items required might be readily available and others which were perhaps used in common with aircraft involved in high priority projects in short supply, access to the military system would not only not insure immediate support of a project such as this, which would carry a very low priority in the military process, but would also involve completely unacceptable confusion and cost to us. It was for this reason we attempted from the beginning to assure that all concerned recognized that if these airplanes were to be put to use (and it was the charitable organizations who had asked for the specific airplanes) they must establish their own capability and procedures to support them.

If their program is such that they must have four aircraft operating, they will have to recognize that at a distance from the United States they are certain to encounter conditions which will ground aircraft while a replacement is obtained or a repair of an item is made. The only way they can hope to keep four aircraft operating at all times is to have more than that number of aircraft in their fleet. There is another aircraft which within the last few days has been released by

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Sign
Philip F. Hilbert

0438

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the using organization and which could be made available on the same basis as before if it is desired. However, merely to take it without insuring that they have developed satisfactory commercial sources of support will simply complicate their problem.

In summary, there is nothing further that the Air Force can do and we believe that the organizations involved should be unequivocally so informed in order to avoid the risk of misunderstandings hereafter. We cannot make spare parts available beyond our original offer and any effort to do so is merely temporizing with the problem which must be solved otherwise.

Sincerely



PHILIP F. HILBERT
Deputy Under Secretary

Honorable Joseph Palmer 2nd
Assistant Secretary of State
Bureau of African Affairs
Department of State

0439

